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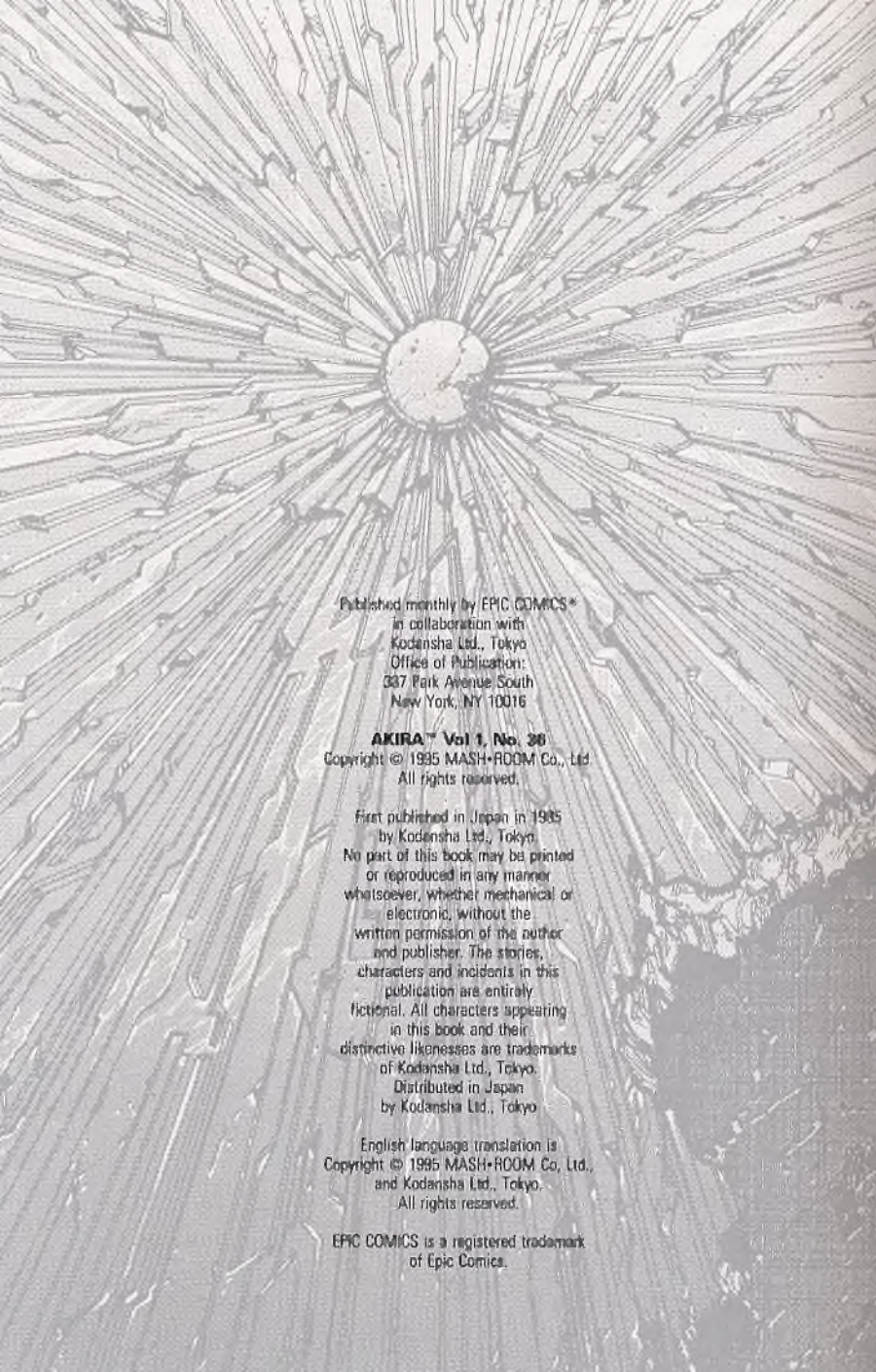
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KATSUHIRO OTOMO



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AKIRA

BY KATSUHIRO OTOMO

Chapter 36

MIYAKO'S LAST STAND

WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE



2030. The world hovers on the brink of World War IV. **Kaneda**, onetime leader of a delinquent gang, is caught up in the aftermath of a power struggle between a Japanese military research organization — led by a man known only as the **Colonel** — and a resistance group whose members included **Kay**, **Ryu**, and a formidable woman named **Chiyoko**.

The **Colonel** once controlled

a number of psychic children, each identified by a number marked on the hand. Among them were **Kiyoko** and **Masaru** — Numbers 25 and 27. The blind **Lady Miyako** —

Number 19 — now heads a great religious cult. **Number 41** is **Tetsuo**, who lost his left arm to a laser blast from the Colonel's SOL military satellite, and has used cybernetics and telekinesis to fabricate a prosthetic replacement. **Tetsuo** was Kaneda's dearest friend until he used his burgeoning powers to slaughter other members of their gang. Now, **Kaneda** is out for revenge.

Most powerful of all the children is **Number 28** —

Akira — a docile and enigmatic boy who was placed in cryogenic sleep almost forty years ago, after he started the Third World War with a mental blast. He was recently reawakened by **Tetsuo**, and again he devastated the reconstructed city of **Neo-Tokyo**. Now Japan exists in a state of emergency. The forces of the army and the resistance are scattered, and the military's formidable caretaker robots patrol the streets.

In the western part of **Neo-Tokyo**, the **Great Tokyo Empire** is formed — a monarchy with **Akira** on the throne and **Tetsuo** as his prime minis-



Kaneda



Masaru



Kai



Lady Miyako



ter. Together the pair use their powers, organizing their subjects into fighting units to defend their land. Their headquarters is Neo-Tokyo's Olympic Stadium. To the east, **Lady Miyako** welcomes refugees to her shrine. In this, she is aided by **Kiyoko**, **Masaru**, and a number of loyal, psychic monks.

The **Empire** is infiltrated by teams of spies and commando units from the outside world, equipped with biochemical armaments which take a tremendous toll on Tetsuo's forces.

A fleet of foreign ships waits in Tokyo Bay, poised for action. Aboard an American naval vessel, an international conclave of scientists and one Tibetan monk study the **Akira** phenomenon — which they've codenamed Juvenile A. One of the scientists — **Stanley Simmons** goes ashore to implement a secret plan. The

research team is certain that using military force against **Akira** and **Tetsuo** can only lead to disaster.

Meanwhile, **Kay** joins Miyako's forces in battle against **Tetsuo**. **Kay** is a powerful medium, through whom the others can project their powers and strike as one.



Kaneda teams up with **Kai** and **Joker** — a rival from his gang days. Using salvaged weapons the trio lead a force of



Tetsuo



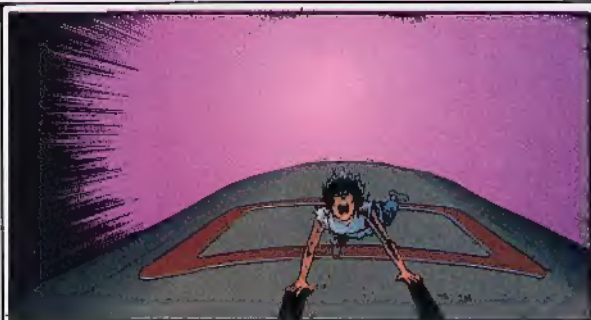
Stanley Simmons



Akira



Joker



refugees and street rats to help Kay in her battle with **Tetsuo**. As they fight, **Akira** looks placidly on.

Then, the international fleet in the harbor sends fighter planes to rain death upon **Neo-Tokyo**, causing chaos among all the combatants. Enraged, **Tetsuo** teleports himself to space, seizing control of an orbiting laser cannon. He fires the weapon at the fleet, and then brings it crashing down upon the flagship, killing the commanders and forcing mass evacuation of military personnel and the few scientists who survive.

Griefstricken over the death of his gentle girlfriend, **Kaori**, **Tetsuo** carries her body to the underground chamber where **Akira** once slept. Drawn by the similarity of their powers, **Akira** follows **Tetsuo**. Along the way, he is joined by **Kaneda**, **Joker**,

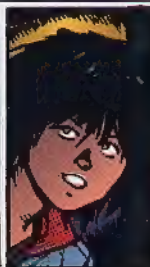
Chiyoko and **Ryu**. They plan to fight in the bowels of the earth, where many of their comrades died.

Tetsuo's powers have grown erratic. His body frequently bloats and expands, engulfing those who venture too close. For a moment, it seems that contact with **Kaneda** has restored Tetsuo's humanity. Then, his power comes surging back, and Kaneda is drawn into his monstrous form, apparently consumed. As the battle rages, **Akira** becomes more alert. Terrified of what might occur if **Akira** fully awakes, **Ryu** panics. He draws a gun and shoots **Akira**, setting the boy's power free.

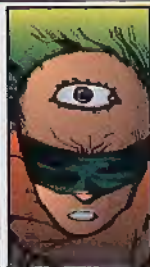
Seeking a new power source for himself, **Tetsuo** flies to Lady Miyako's shrine, with **Kay** in hot pursuit. **Lady Miyako** instructs **Kiyoko** and **Masaru** to look after **Akira**,



Kiyoko



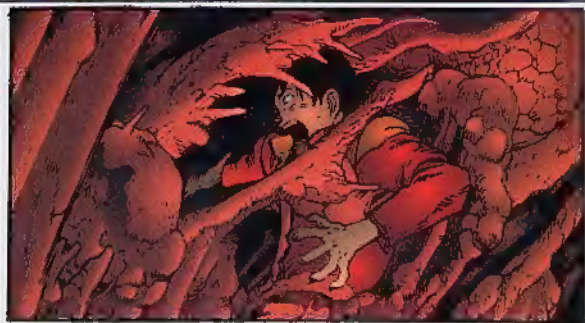
Kaori



Seer



Ryu



and the pair teleport away to help their friend. **Lady Miyako**, her followers, and **Kay** prepare to make a final stand against **Tetsuo**.

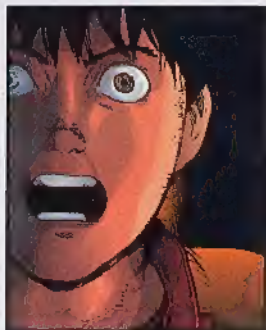
Kiyako and **Masaru** meet **Akira** on the psychic plane, and are joined by the spirits of all the gifted children who have died before, hoping to use Akira's power once more.

Telling **Kay** that the resolution depends on her, **Lady Miyako** heroically draws Tetsuo's attention to herself and is killed. As she dies, she, too, is drawn to the spirit plane, where the souls of friends who have gone before await. **Kay** is guided in battle by her late mentor's commands, and is able to break through to **Tetsuo**. His concentration interrupted, he is vulnerable, and is himself consumed by force from Akira's mind.

Trapped within Tetsuo's

soul, **Kaneda** experiences a fractured, kaleidoscopic journey through his late friend's life and hardships, sharing with **Tetsuo** both the good memories and the bad.

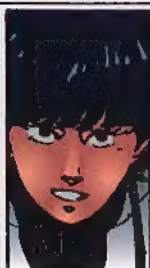
Kaneda is contacted by Lady Miyako's spirit, and is stunned by what she is told. Although **Tetsuo** and **Akira** were created in laboratories, they, and all the catastrophe they bring, are a vital part of mankind's future evolution.



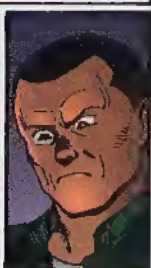
Chiyoko



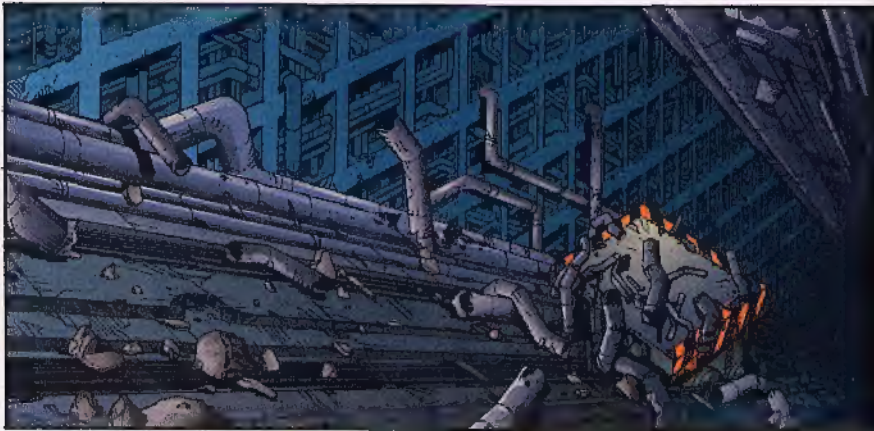
The Colonel

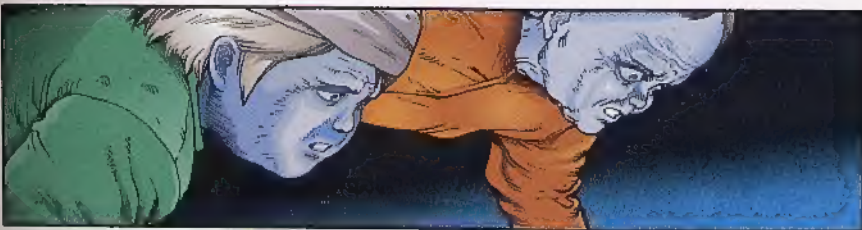


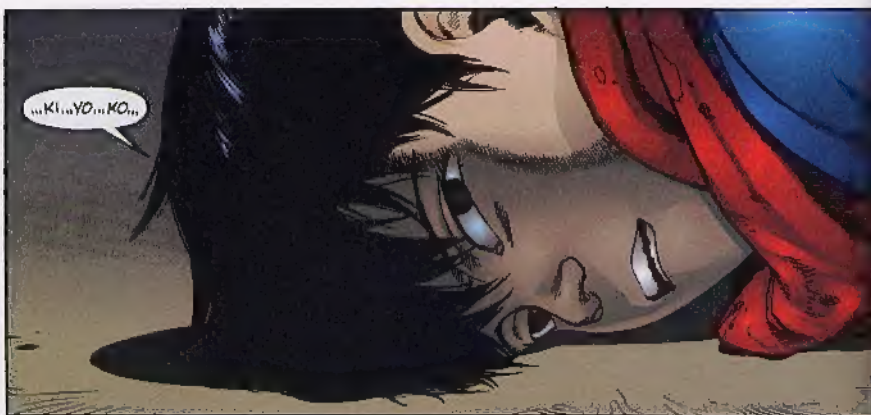
Kay



Lt. Yamada



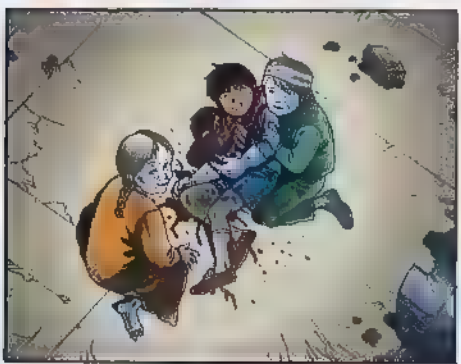
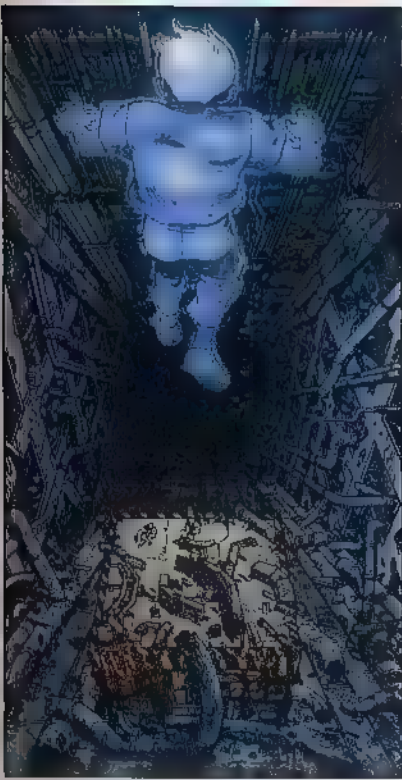
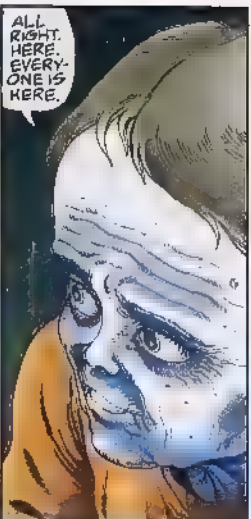


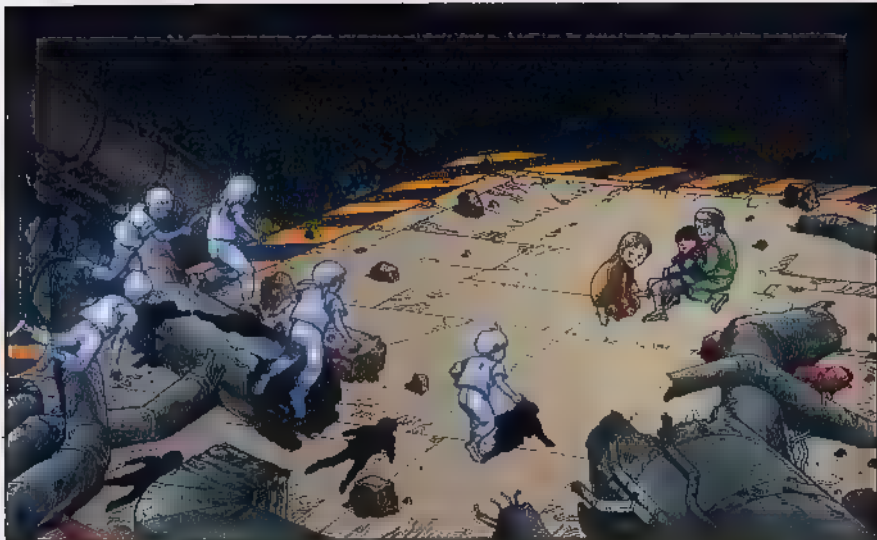


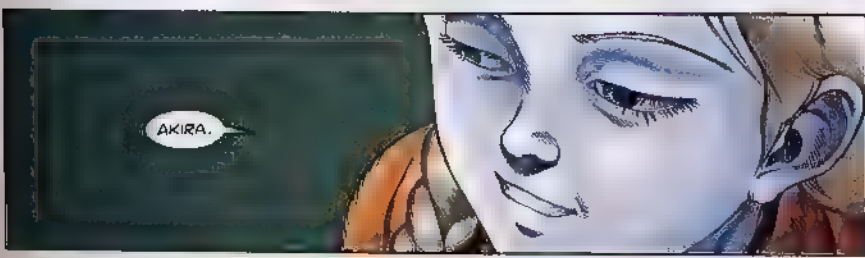
HOW IS
TAKASHI...? THE
OTHERS...?

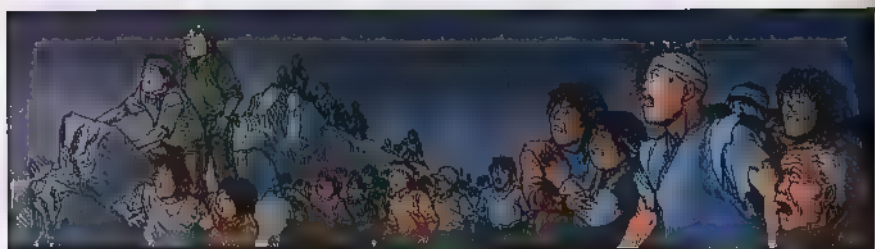


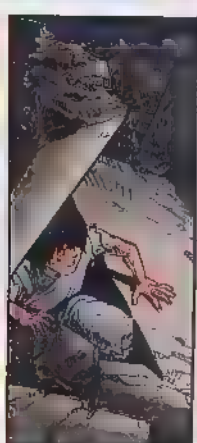
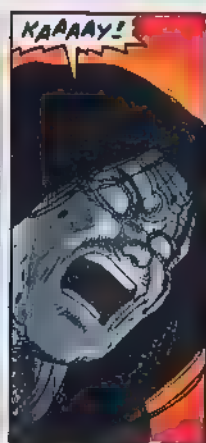
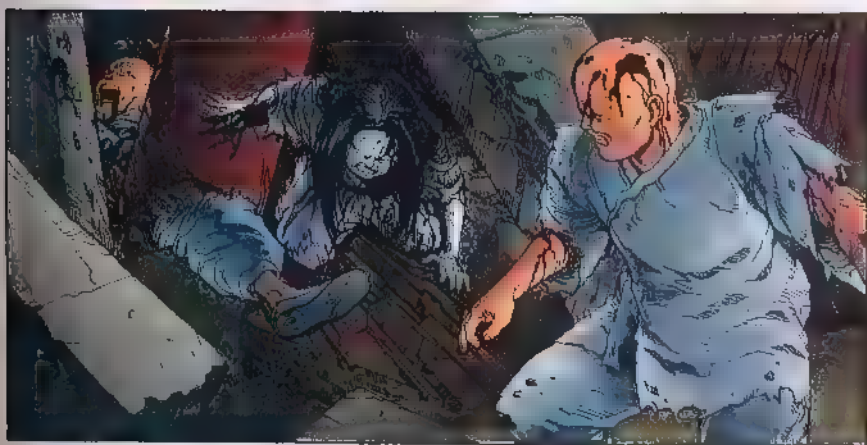
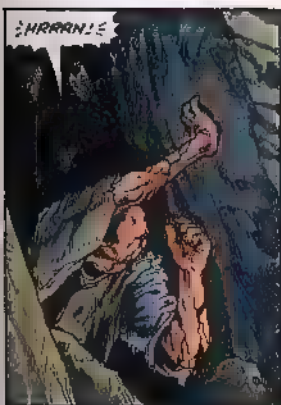
ALL
RIGHT.
HERE.
EVERY-
ONE IS
HERE.

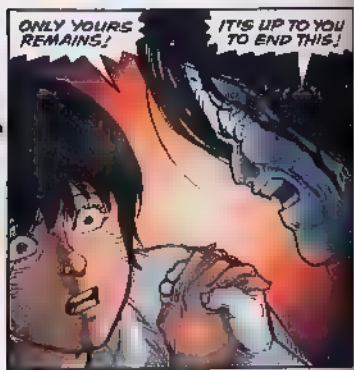
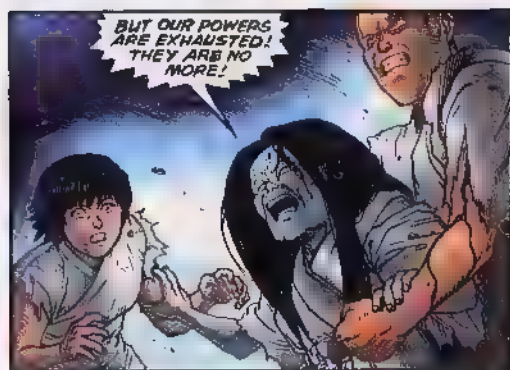
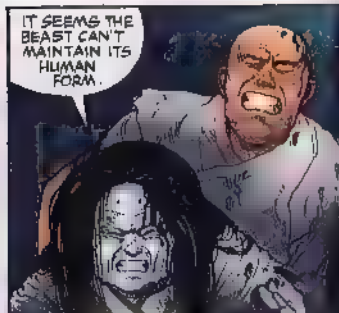
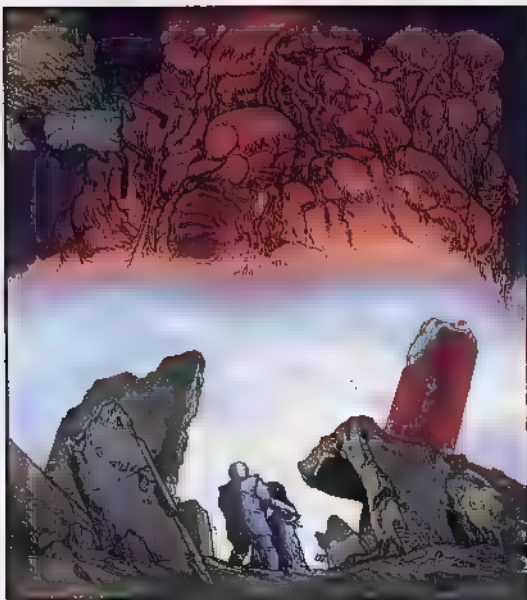


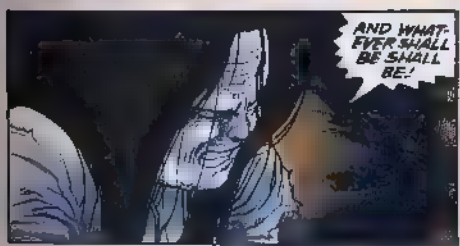
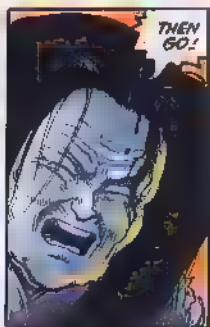
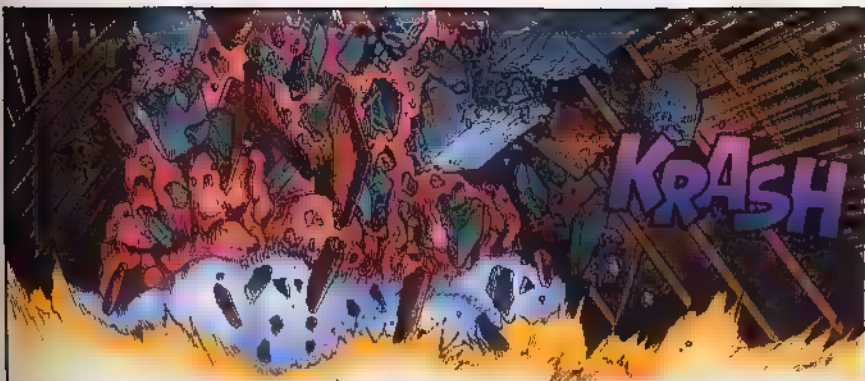


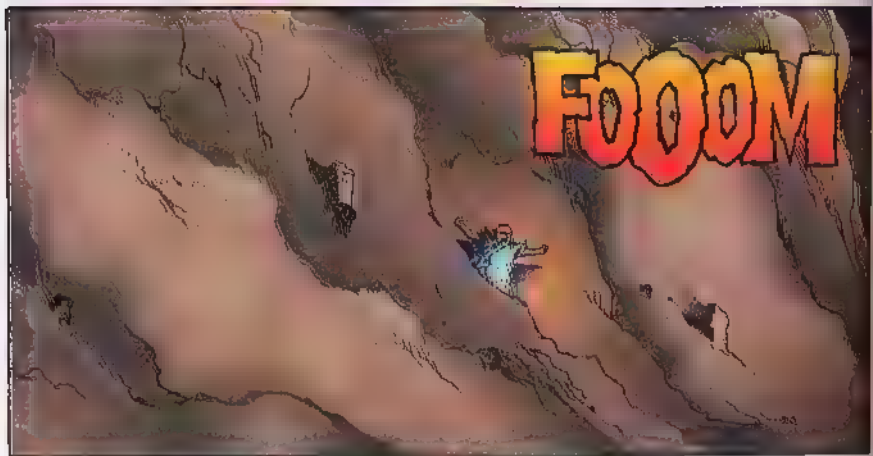


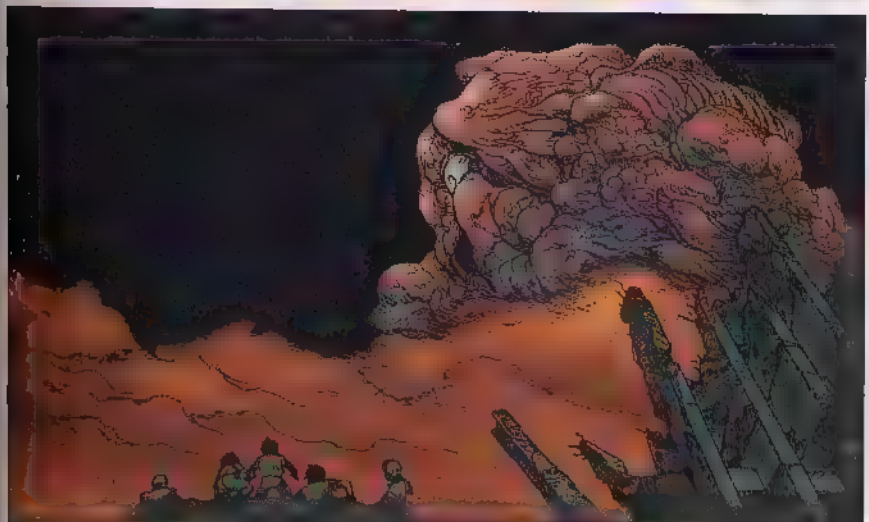
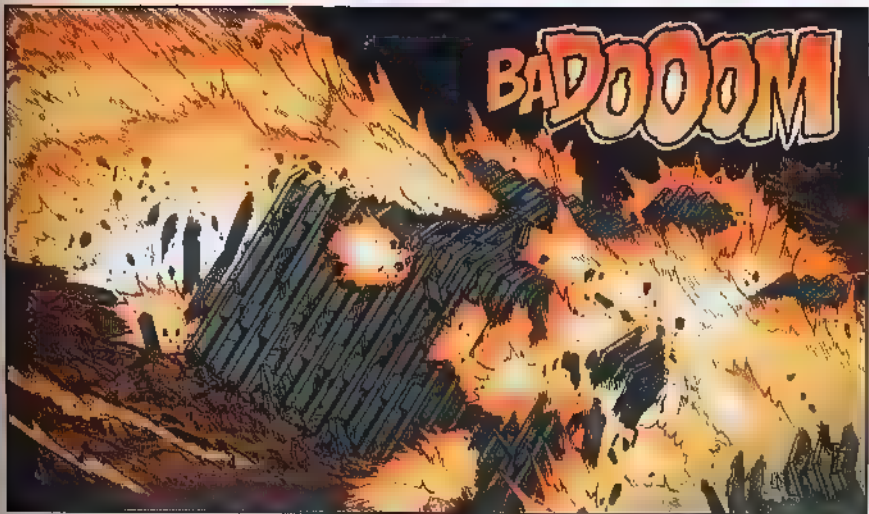


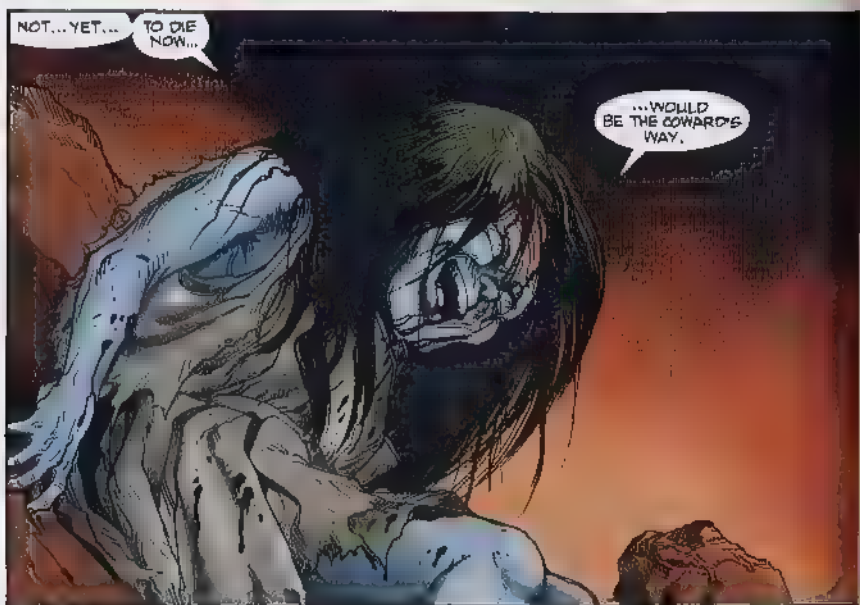
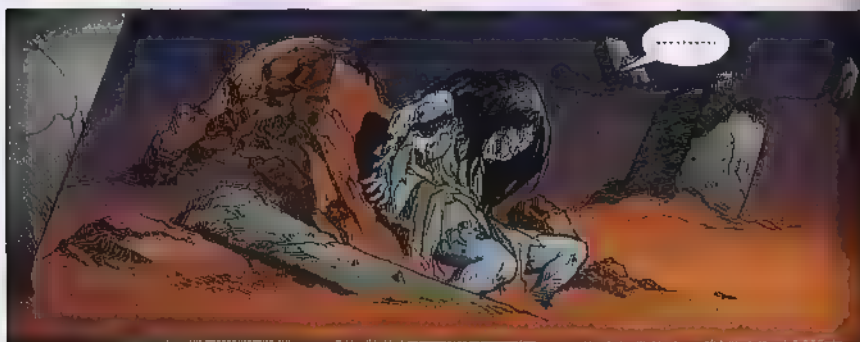
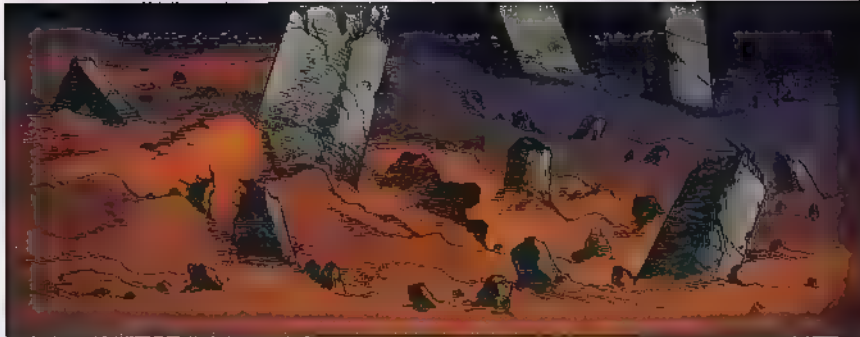


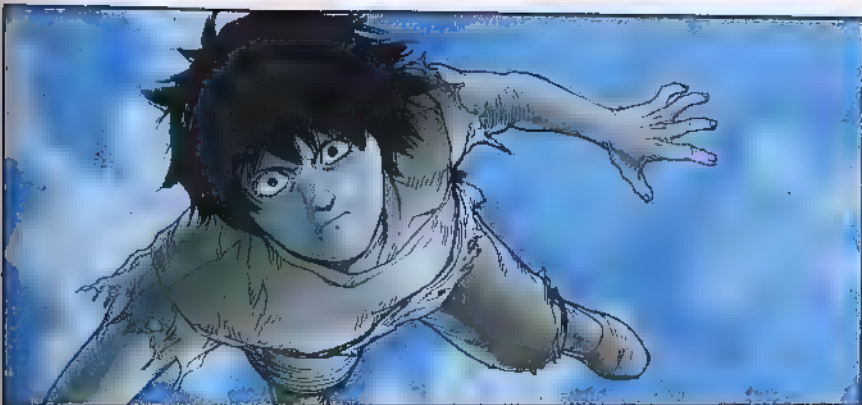


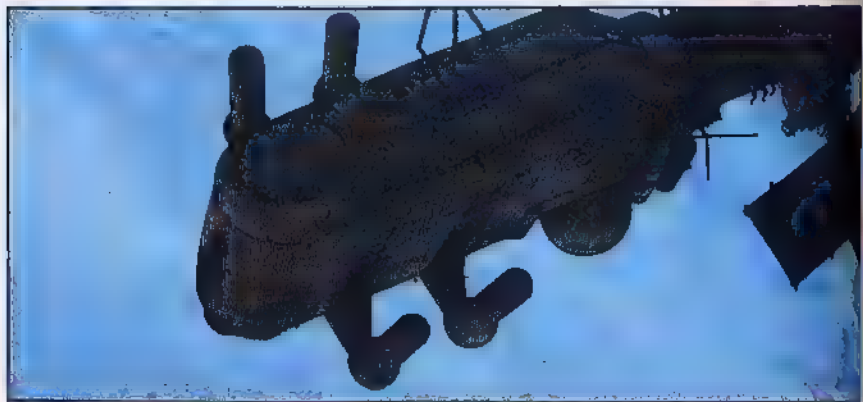
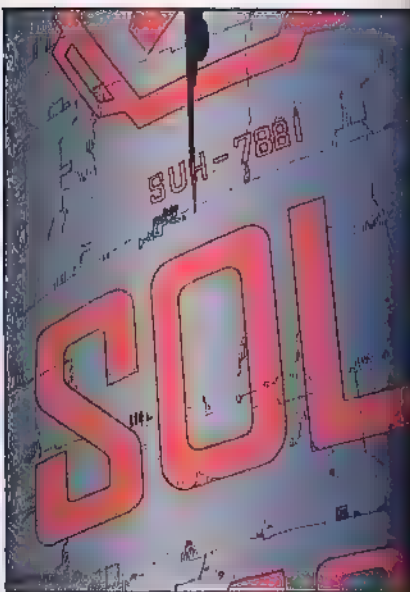
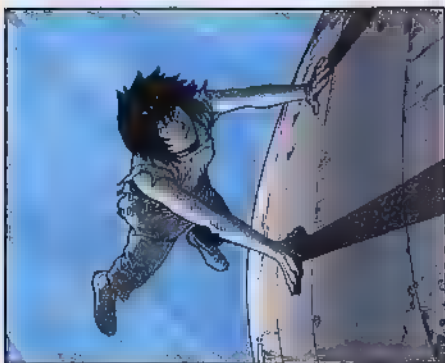


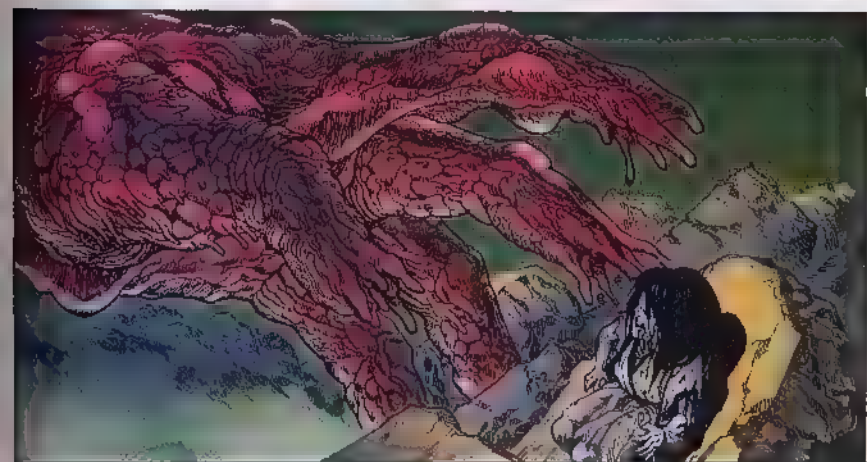
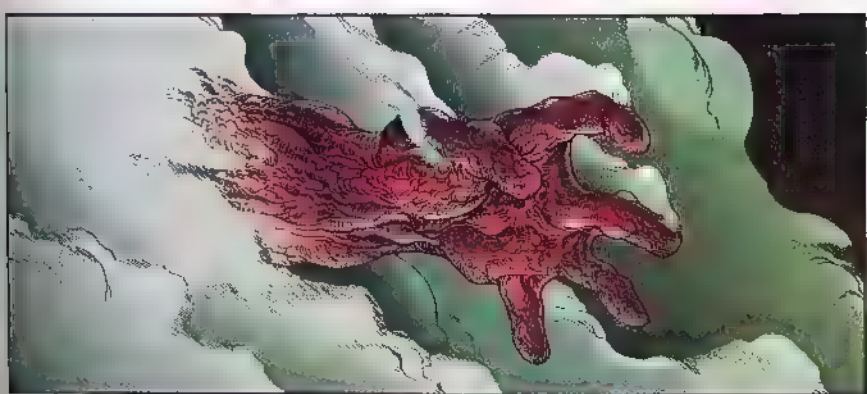


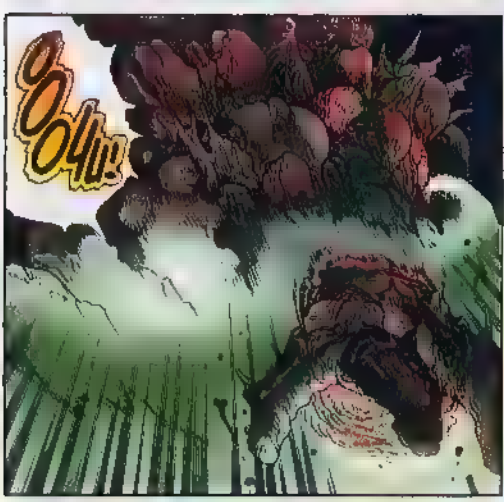
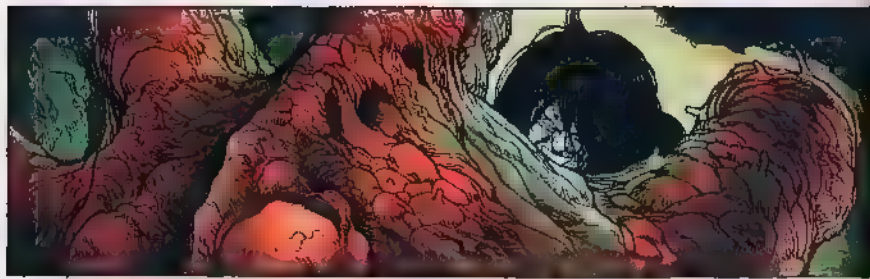








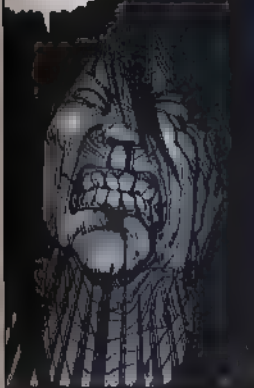


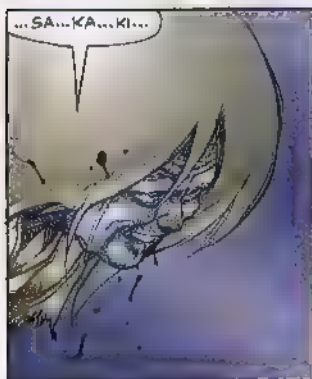
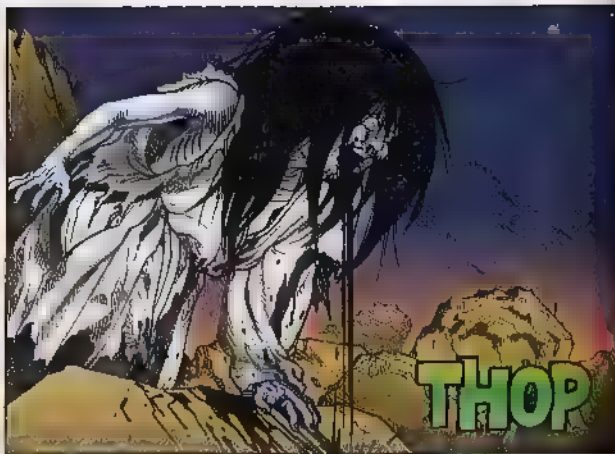


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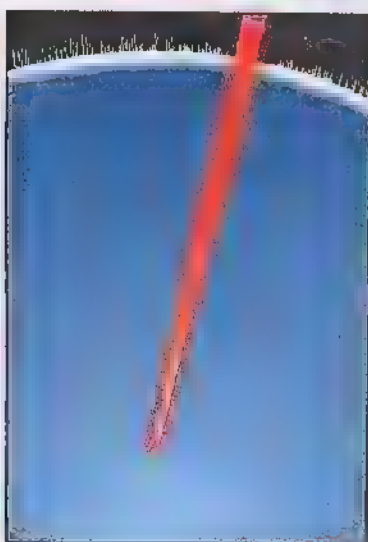
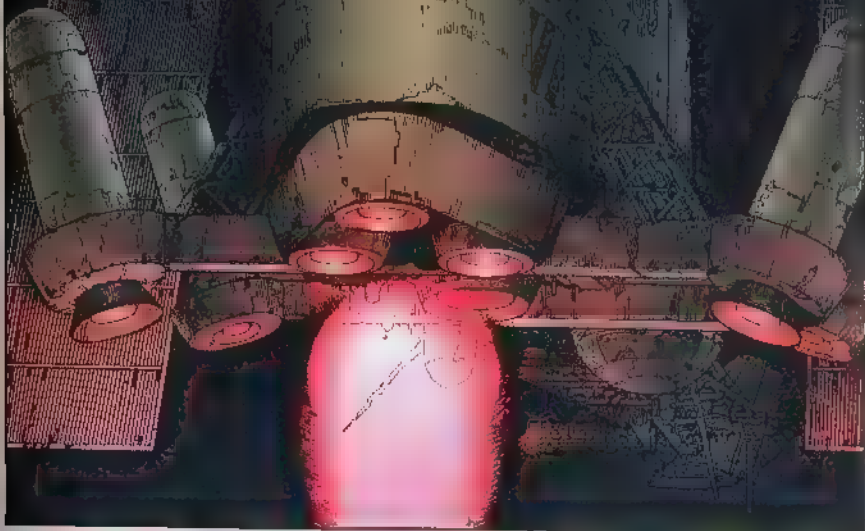


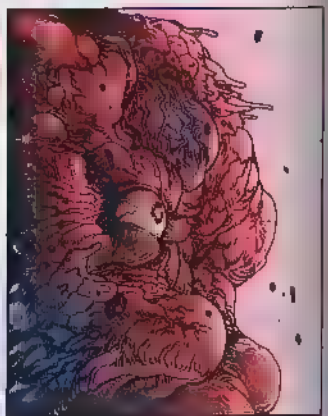
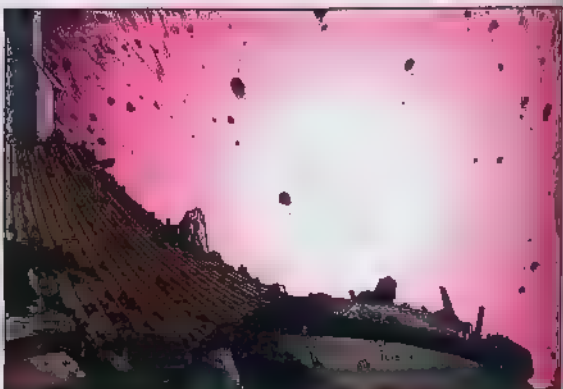
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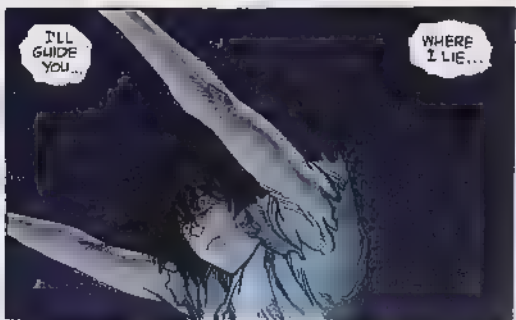
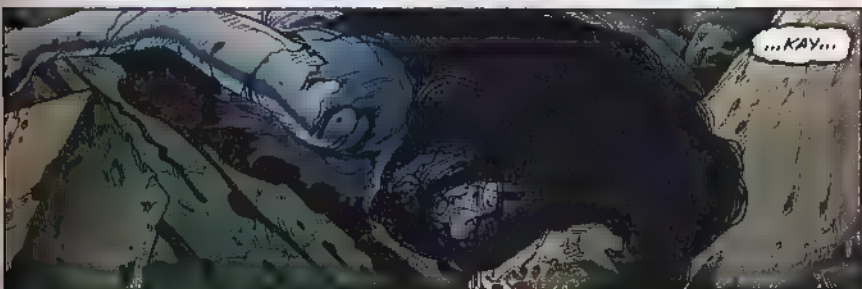
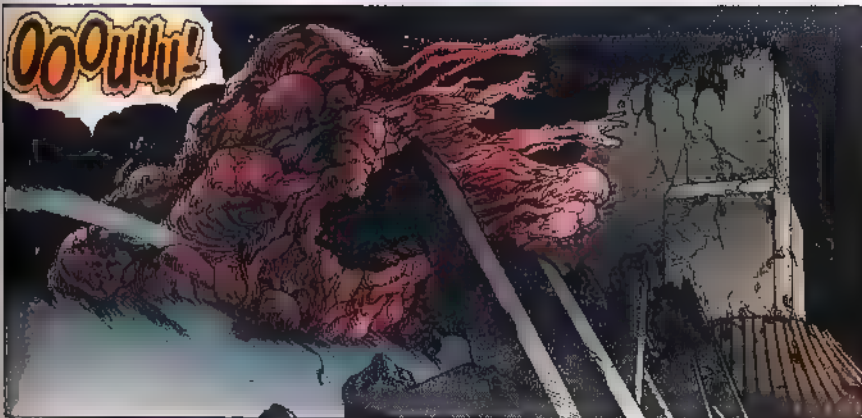


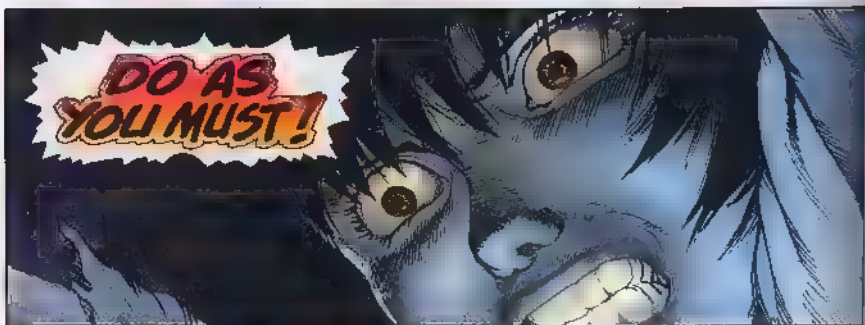


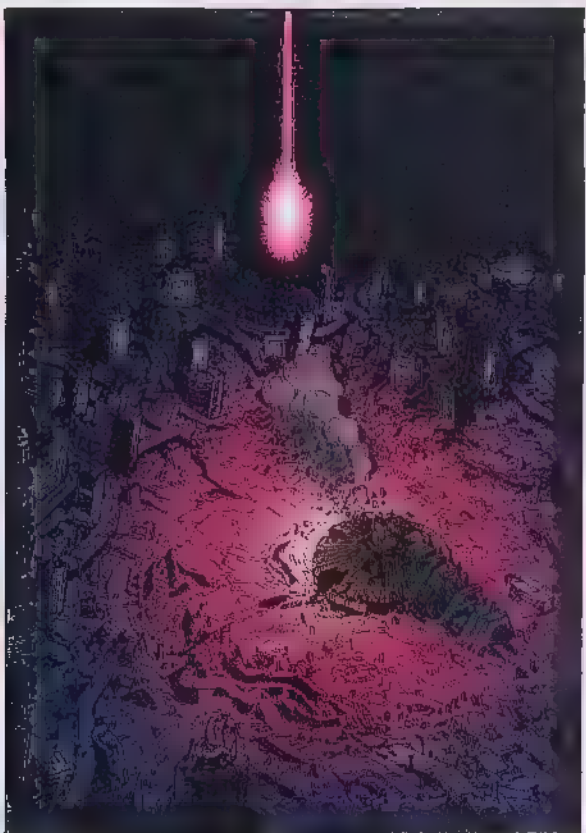
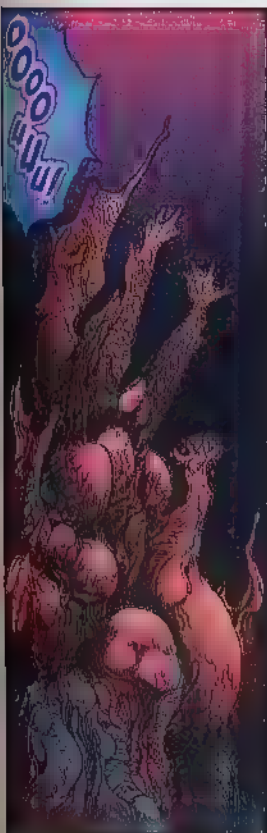
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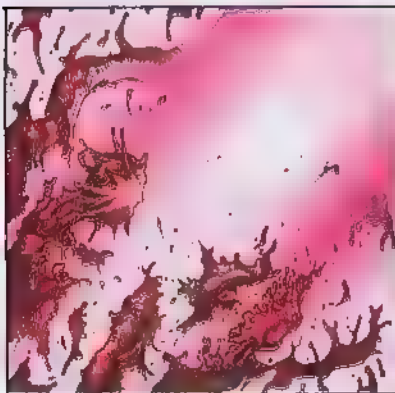
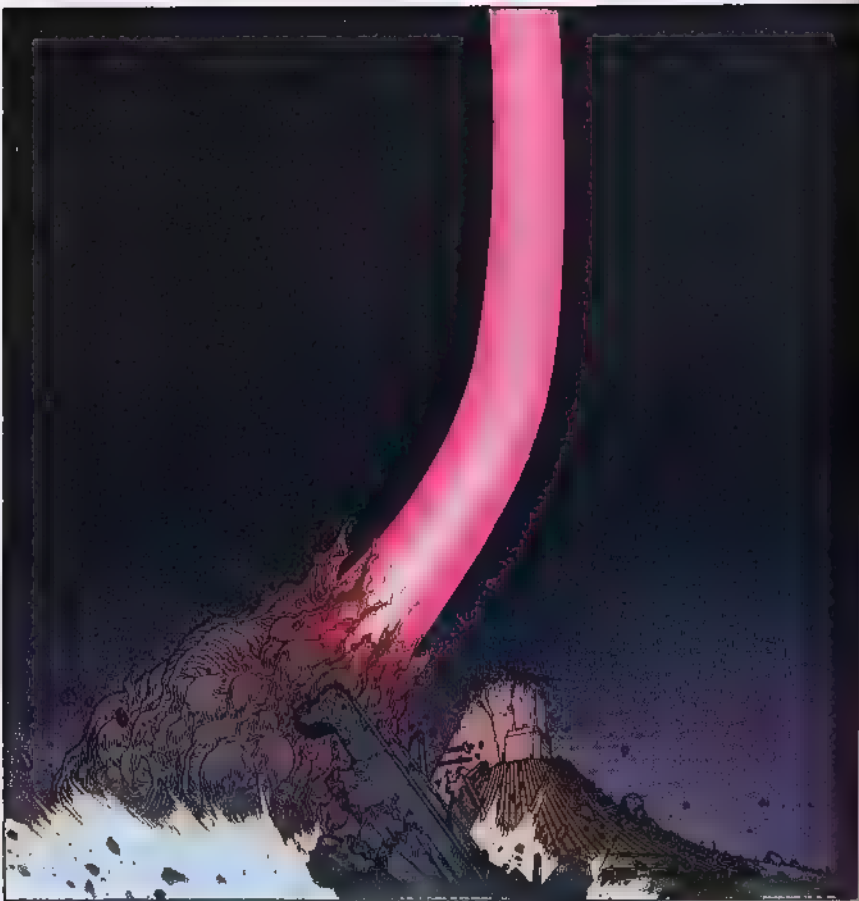




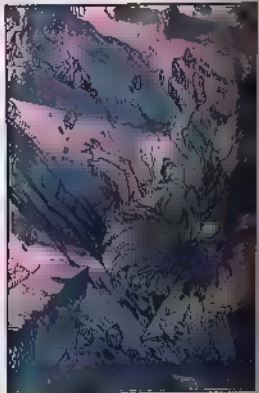


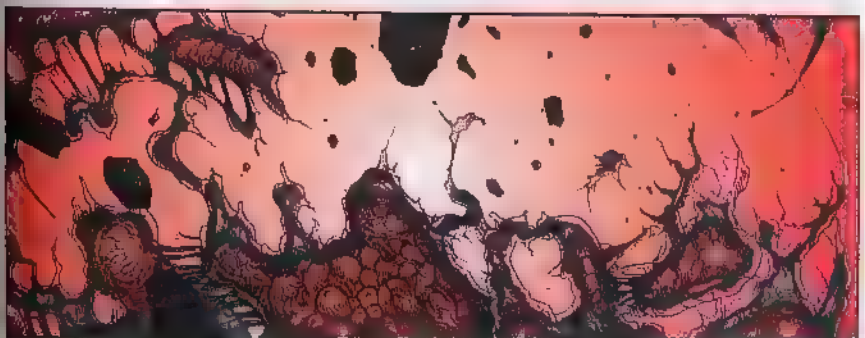
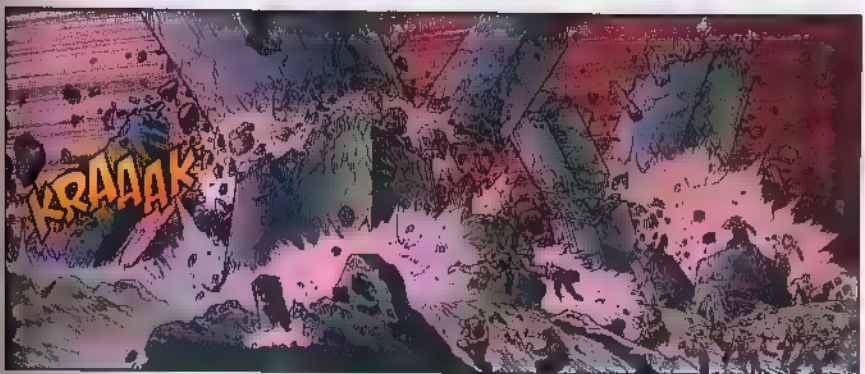
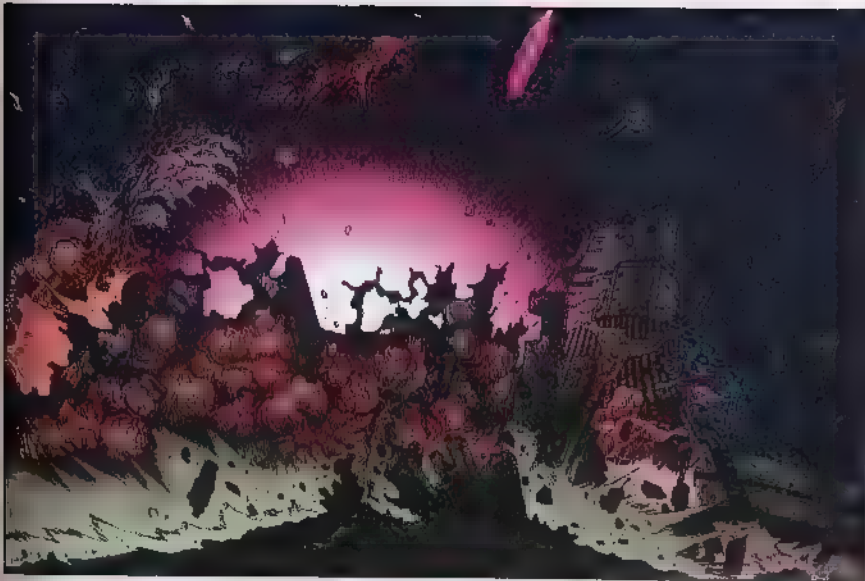


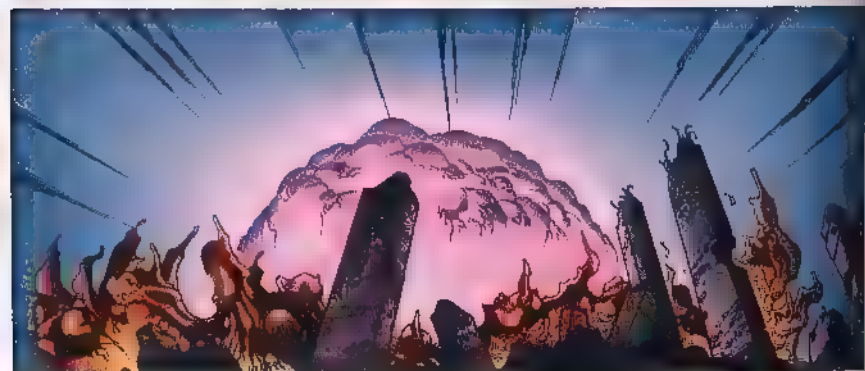
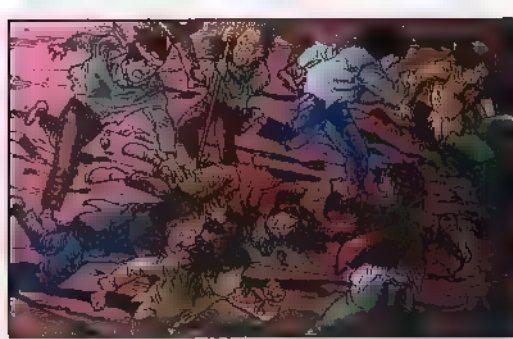


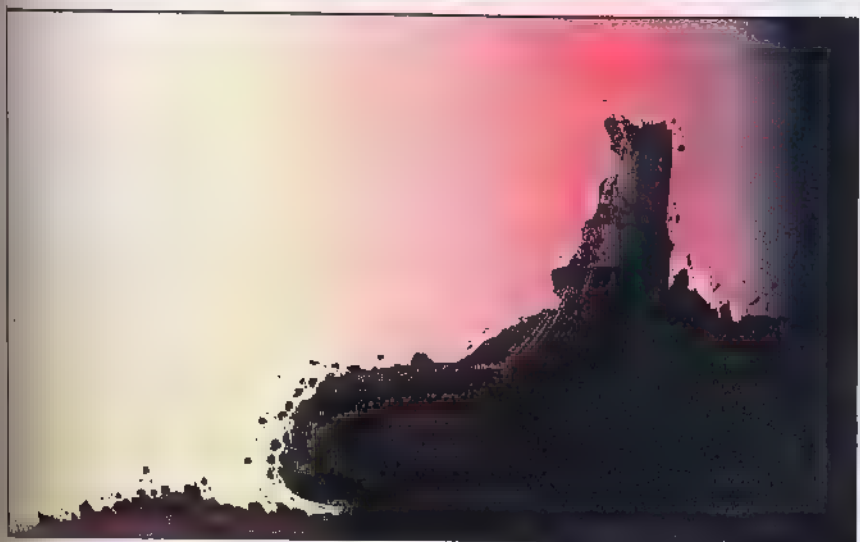


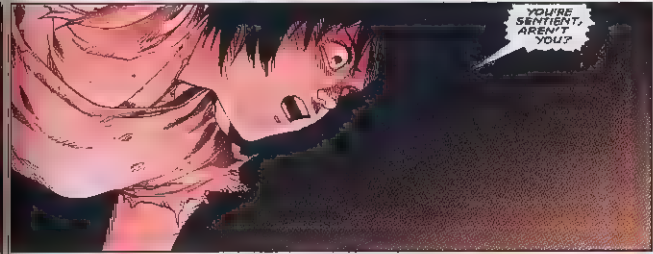
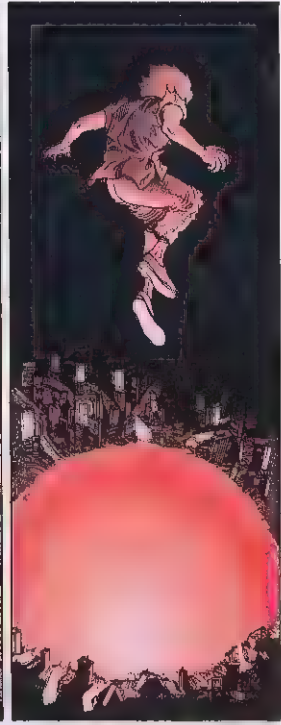
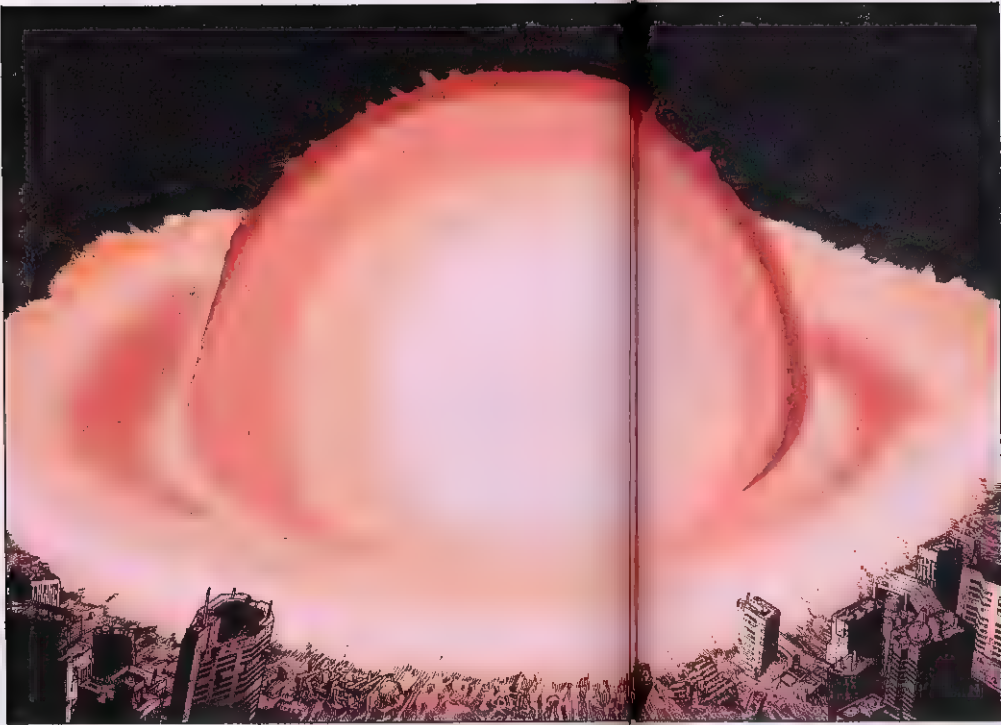
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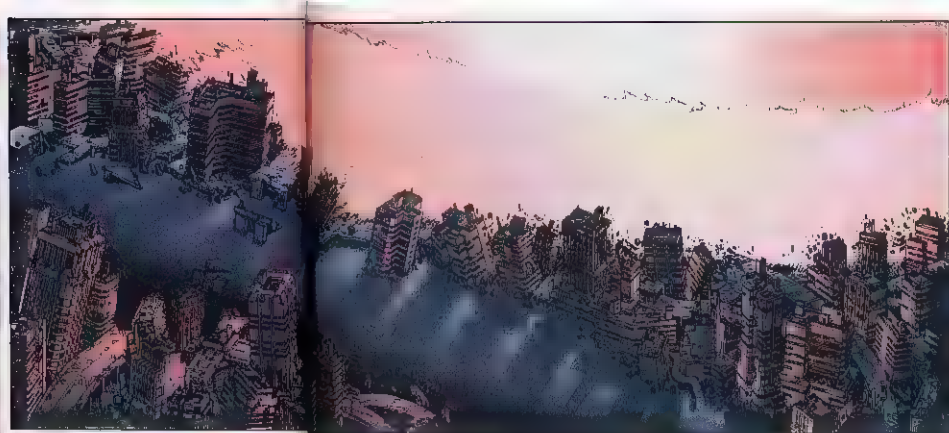
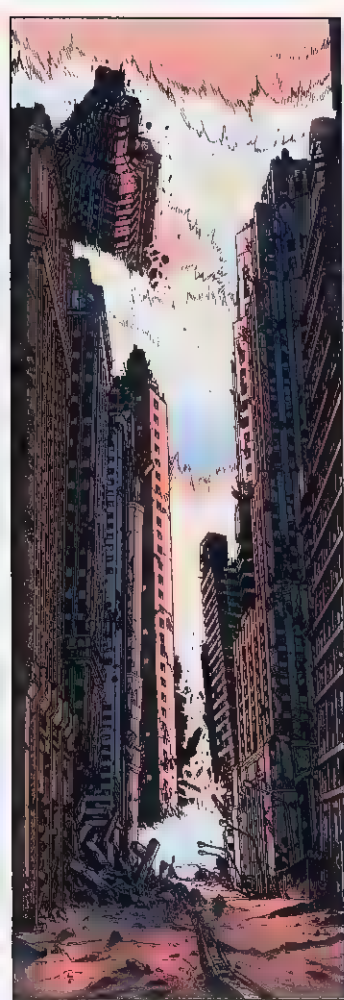












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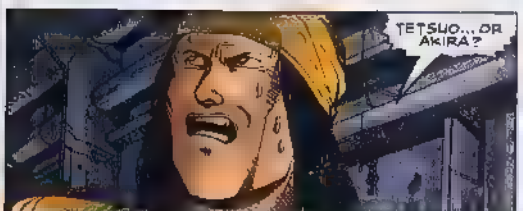


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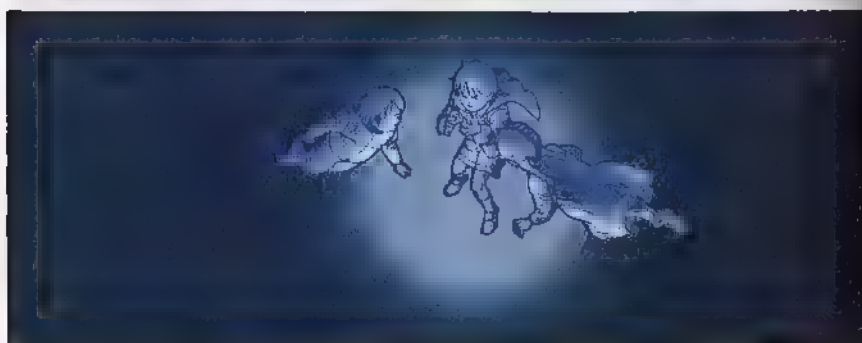
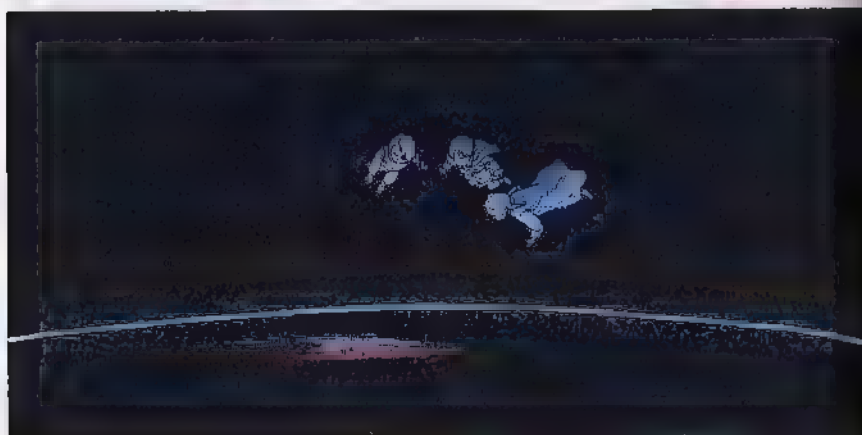
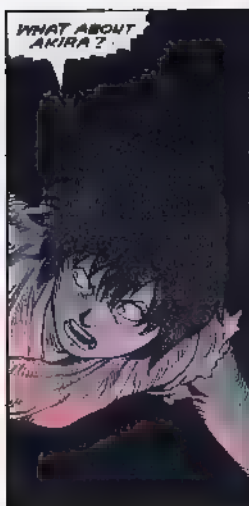
IT'S BEGUN.



SOUNDS LIKE
SOMETHIN' BIG IS
GOIN' ON.

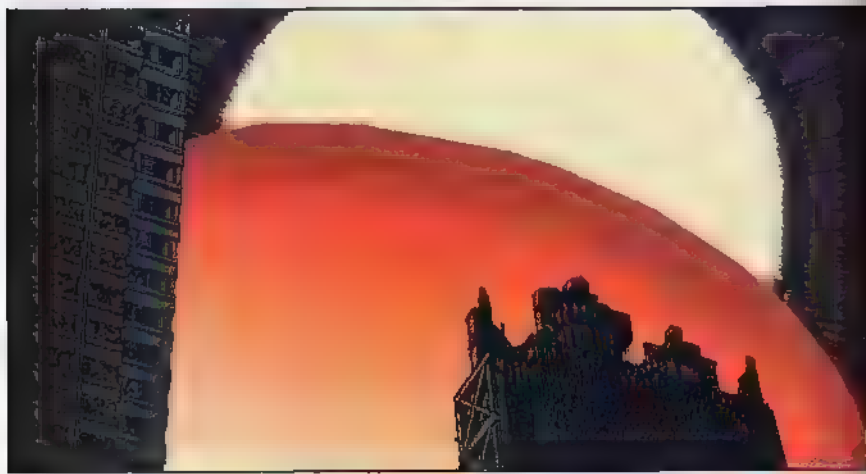
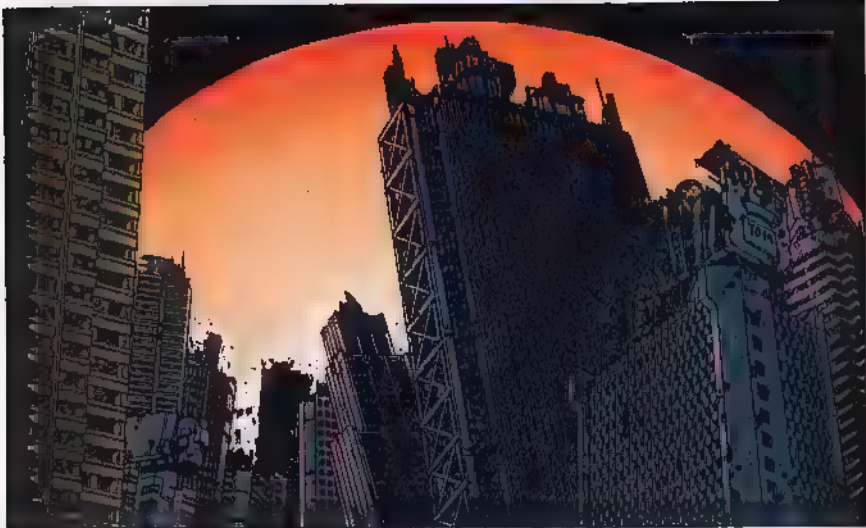


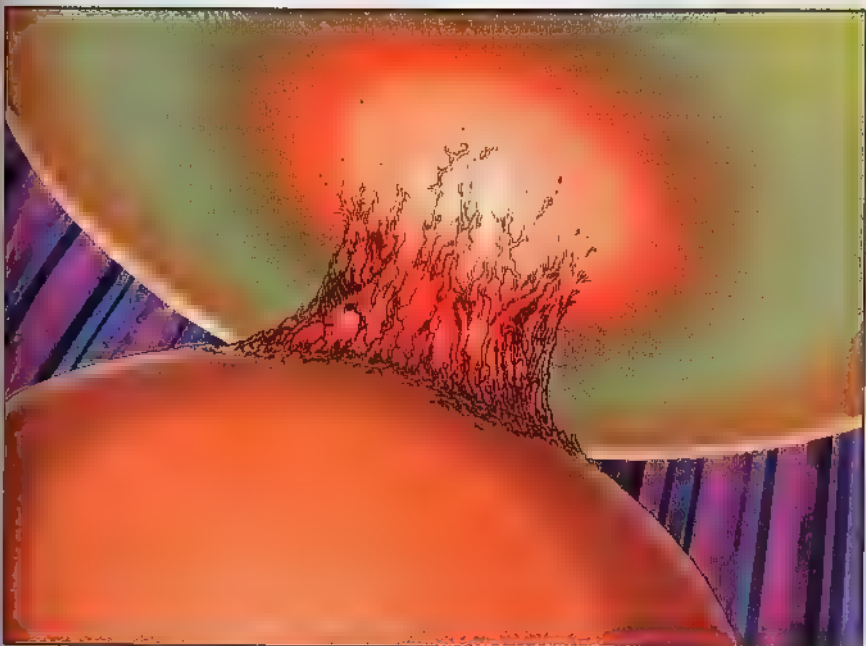
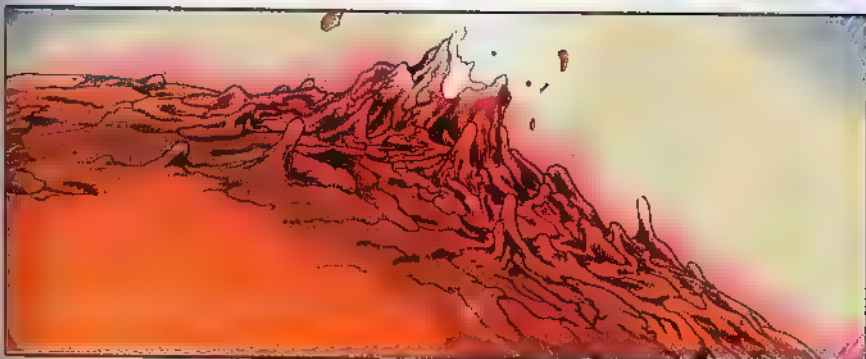
TETSUO... OR
AKIRA?



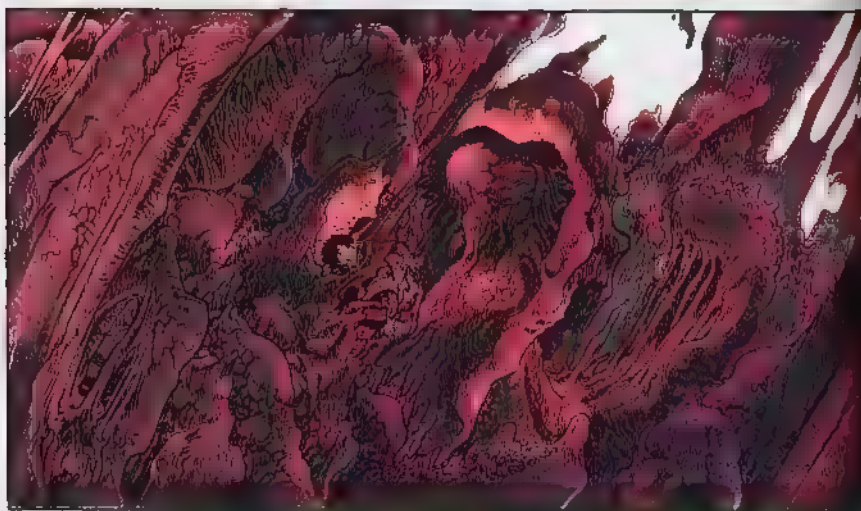
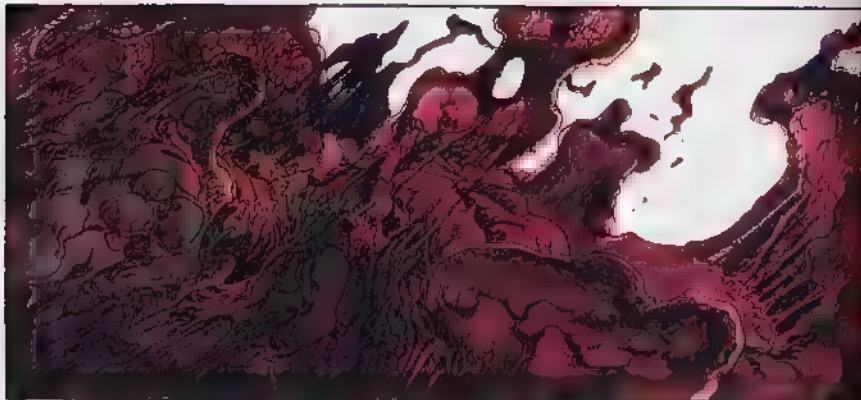


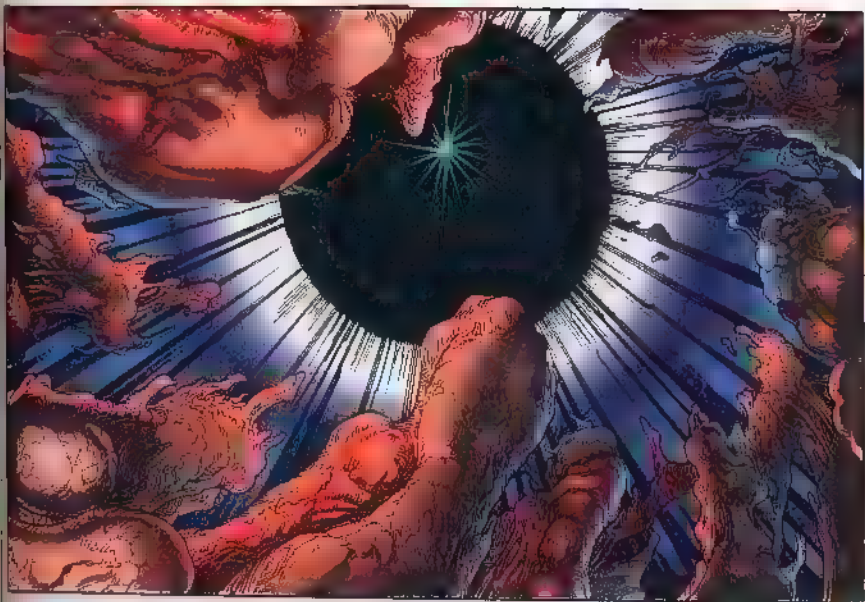




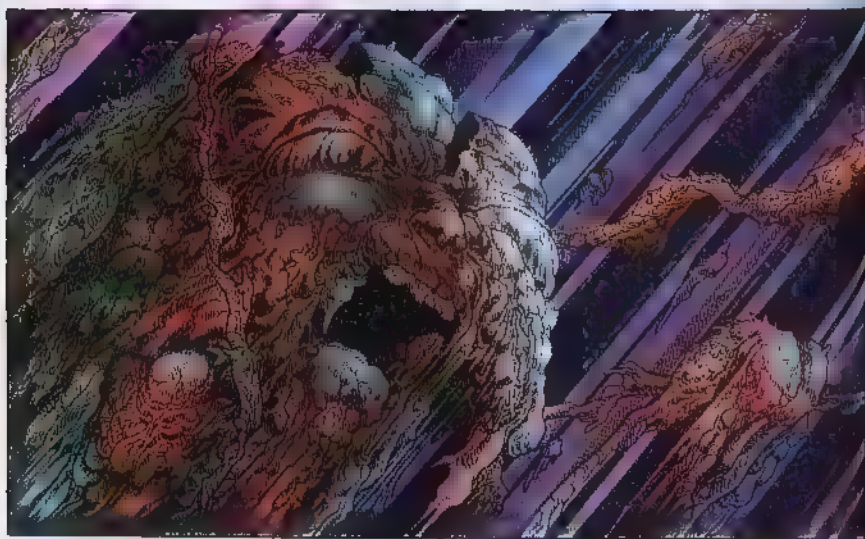
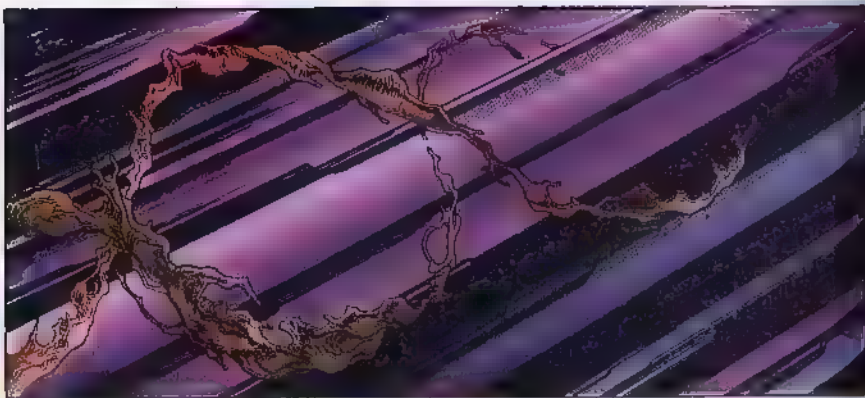


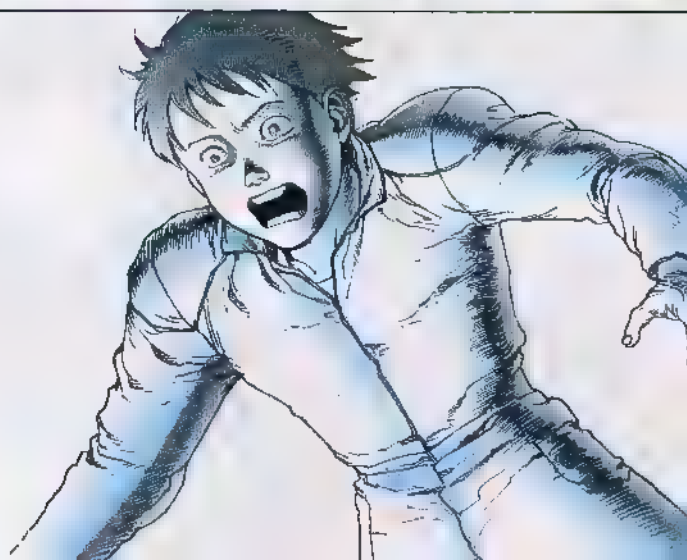
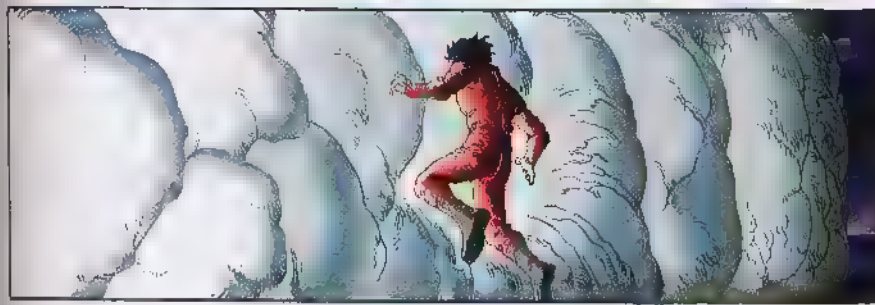












U.S. TETSU!

WHAT'S
HAPPENED
TO
YOU
?!

CAN
YOU
HEAR
ME?

KOR!

MONSTER
IS THE ONE
ALL

RIGHT!

IF
THAT'S
WHO IT
WAS...

HE
MAY HAVE BEEN
TRYING TO
ESCAPE THE
RESTRAINTS
YOU PLACED
ON HIM.

AREN'T
YOU
KAY?

HIS BODY CAN NO
LONGER CONTAIN THE
BURGEONING POWER,
SO IT SEEMS TO
POSSSESS A
GREATER FORM.

WHAT
ABOUT
THE
MON?

TETSU...
IS THAT
YOU?

KA...

... WE
DREAM

THIS
IS
THE
TIME.

I'VE
BEEN
WAITING
FOR!

MURDO
HURRY

MORI
IS
DEAD...
WHY
WEEPING...

WHY DID
YOU?

WHAT
?!

COME
ON AND
DO IT
ASSHOLES!

I'M NOT
ALONE.

WE'LL USE PIC-24
GET INTO YOUR
GEAR

A DREAM.

LOOK...

I'VE
GOT
ANY
ARM
BACK.

AMERICAN
SOLDIERS HAVE
US UNDER
ATTACK.

DID YOU
SAY IT'S
A
DREAM?

THIS
IS
THE
DREAM!

TO
CONTROL
YOUR
POWER YOU
MUST
FIRST
MASTER
YOUR
OWN
WEAKNESS!

LORD
AKIRA!

HAIL,
LORD
AKIRA!

... LOCATED
BENEATH THE
CONSTRUCTION
FOR THE NEW
OLYMPIC STADIUM.

I'VE HAD
ENOUGH!

PLEASE
USE
YOUR
POWER
TO
DEFEND
US!

THIS GAS
WAS DEVELOPED
THROUGH GENETIC
ENGINEERING.

WHAT WAS
THAT?

AS FAR
AWAY AS
POSSIBLE.

HAHAHAHA!

I...

I AM
HERE!

YOU
SAW IT,
TOD.

I REALIZE
NOW HE
WAS A
HERO TO
BOTH OF
THEM.

ALL OF
THIS WILL
FADE
AWAY!

IT'S A
COMPLETE
FAILURE.

BY THE
TIME
HE
WAVES,
IT
WILL BE
TOO
LATE.

NOW
DO YOU
KNOW
ABOUT
AKIRA?!

IT'S AN
ILLUSION!
ALL OF
IT!

ISOM!
SOM!
SOM!





SOB-
SOB!!



TETSUO...

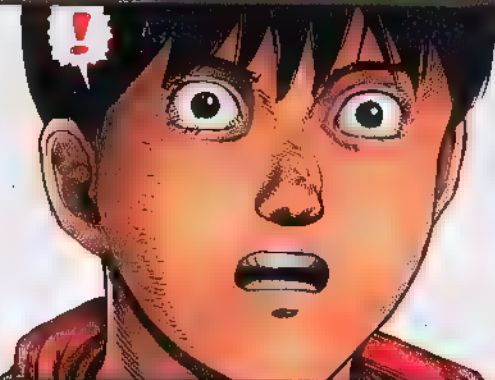


IS ALL
THIS...



JUST A DREAM
YOU'RE HAVING?

ALL OF
HIS LONG-
SUPPRESSED
FEELINGS AND
MEMORIES...



...ARE
BEING RELEASED
AT LAST!

MIYAKO!



AND YOU
ARE A PART OF
IT ALL!



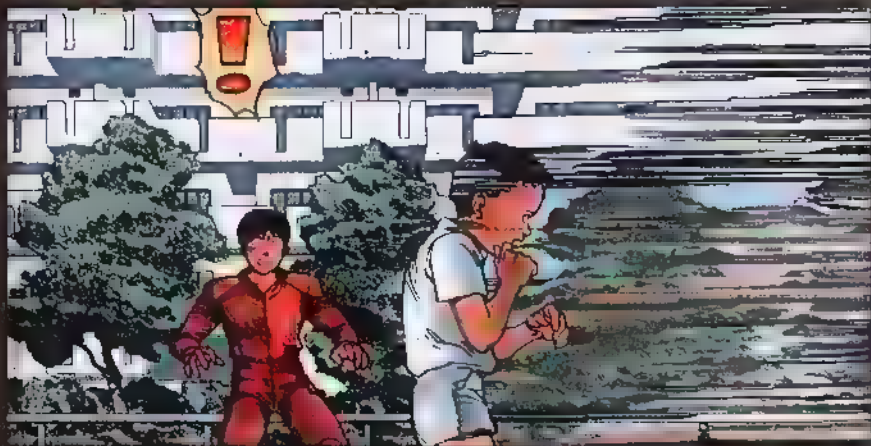
IS TETSUO'S LIFE
FLASHING BEFORE
HIS EYES? LIKE
HE'S GONNA...?

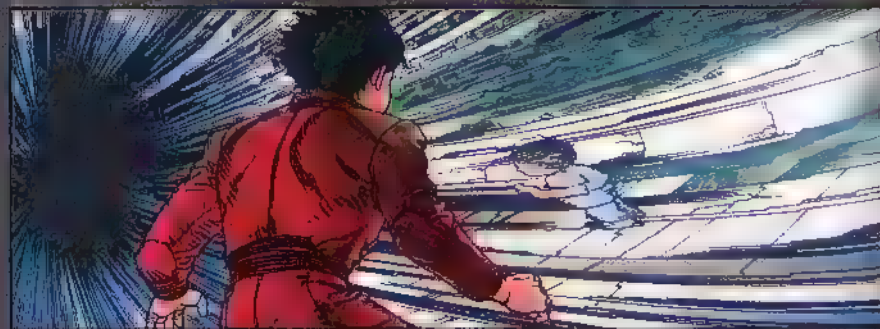


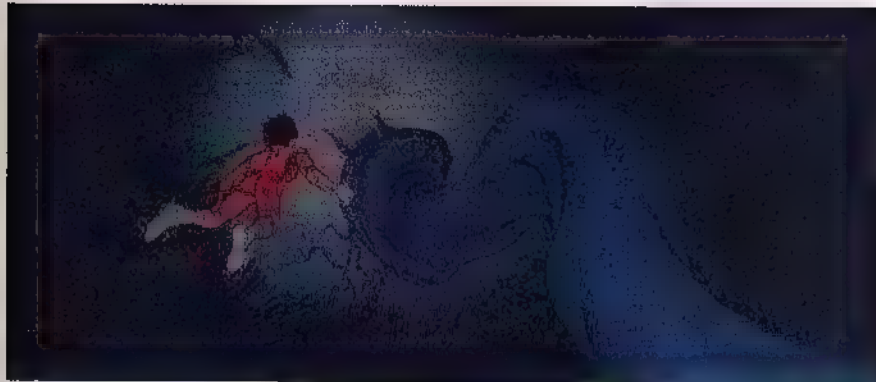
FREED FROM
THE SHACKLES
OF HIS BODY...

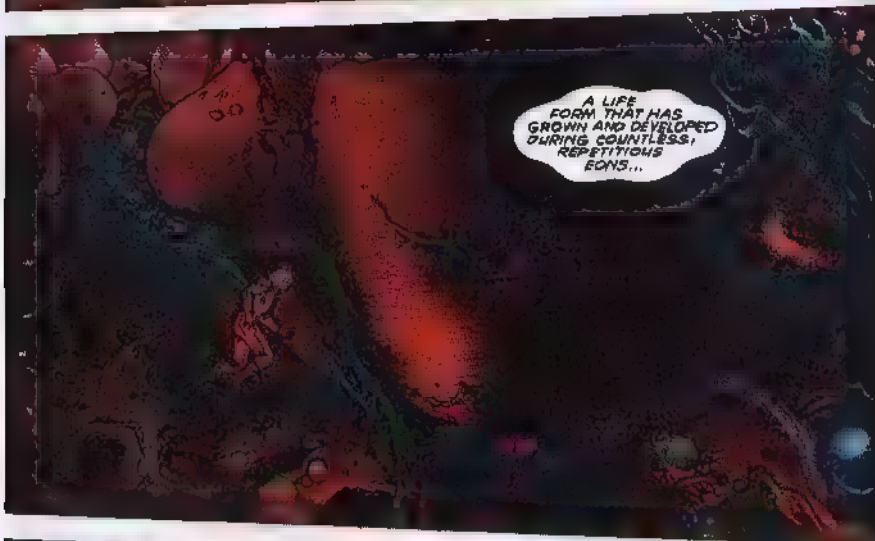
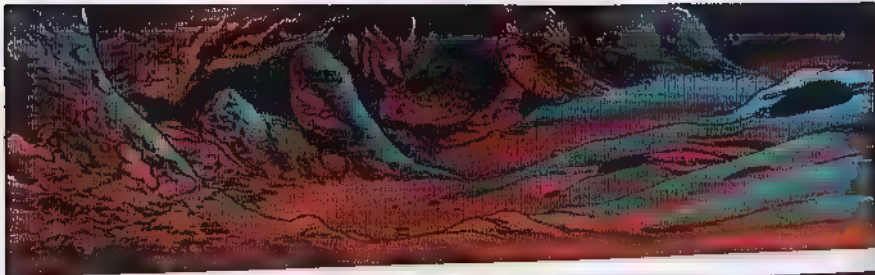


... HIS MIND
HAS REACHED A
SPIRITUAL
PLANE.

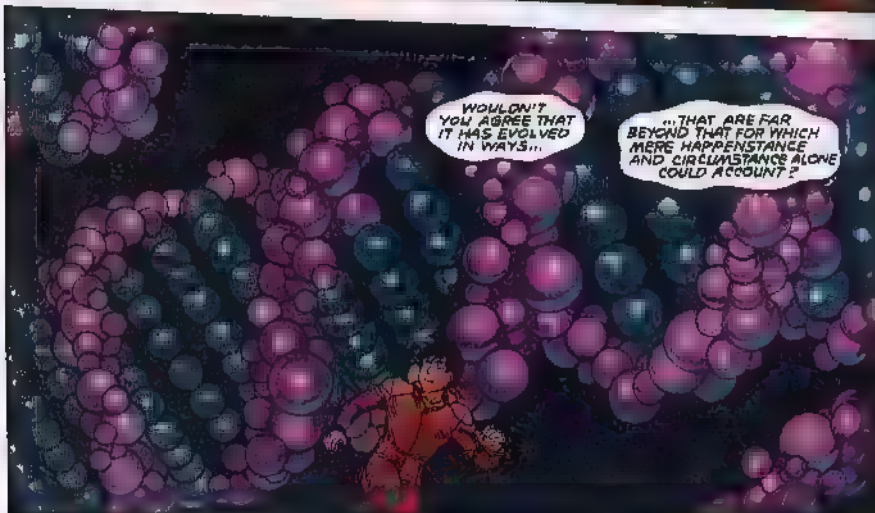








A LIFE
FORM THAT HAS
GROWN AND DEVELOPED
DURING COUNTLESS,
REPETITIOUS
EONS...

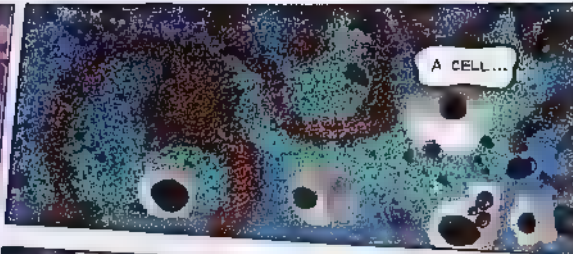


WOULDN'T
YOU AGREE THAT
IT HAS EVOLVED
IN WAYS...

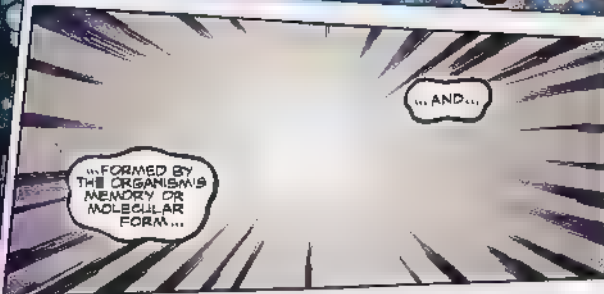
...THAT ARE FAR
BEYOND THAT FOR WHICH
MERE HAPPENSTANCE
AND CIRCUMSTANCE ALONE
COULD ACCOUNT?



WHAT DO
YOU WANT
ME TO...?



A CELL...



...AND...

...FORMED BY
THE ORGANISM'S
MEMORY OR
MOLECULAR
FORM...



...THE MEMORY
OF AN ENTIRE
UNIVERSE!

Coming next month:
**AKIRA TRIBUTE
ISSUE.**



Featuring art and stories by creators
from the West including Moebius,
John Romita, Jo Duffy, Mark Texiera,
Larry Hama, Bret Blevins, Warren Ellis,
Terry Shoemaker, Kent Williams,
John Van Fleet, George Pratt, Alex Toth,
Michael Allred, Joe Madureira,
Mark Chiarello and Mitch O'Connell.

KATSUHIRO OTOMO

監督・脚本・演出

SATOSHI TAKAHATAKI

美術監督・演出助手

SATOSHI KIN

演出助手

KUOSHI HIRATA

演出・演出助手

AKIRA SATO

演出・演出助手

Kodansha Ltd

YOSHIO UMEZAWA

編集

REIJI YUJI

HIKIDARA HIRAHARA

演出・演出助手

YUKA ANDO

SAM YOSHIDA

演出・演出助手

NOBUYUKI OKAZAKI

演出・演出助手

Epic Comics

JO DUFFY

演出

STEVE CLIFF

演出

OLYOPTICS COMPUTER CREW

演出

MICHAEL HIGGINS

with LAURA GRADY

演出

KEVIN SOMERS

POLLY WATSON

演出

MAURIE JAVINS

演出

CARL POTTS

演出

The end is near, for the signs have come to pass; look, and you may see them, too. In a place dancing with stars, a young girl known as Kay commands a machine that spits down fire born in the sun. A triad of children hovers over the city of Neo-Tokyo, weaving strategies of extraordinary forces. The streets below rumble as mental energies collide with the physical, remaking a world. Cut off from her flock, a leader named Lady Miyako screams of salvation and sacrifice. And inside what was once a boy called Tetsuo, things sinister and spiritual battle for control of a human soul.

KATSUHIRO OTOMO'S

AKIRA



DIRECT EDITION

00111 >



5 59606 10166

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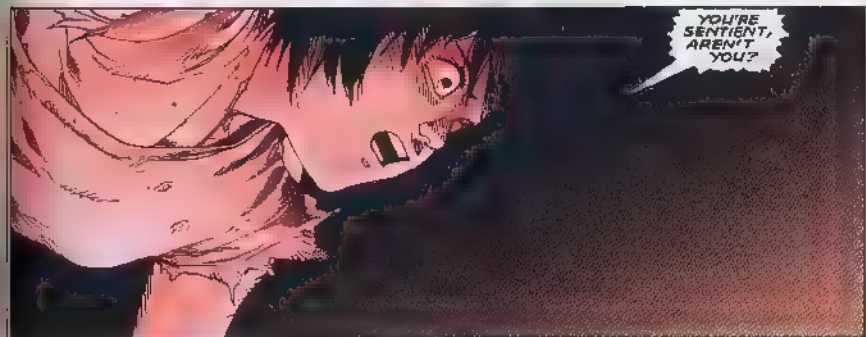
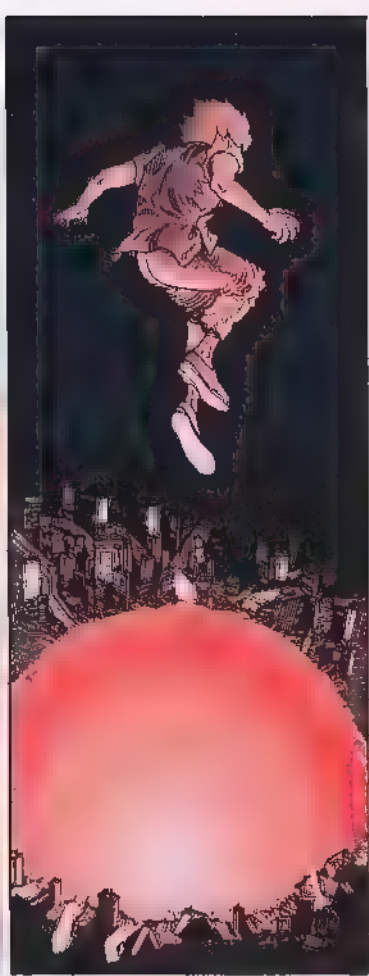
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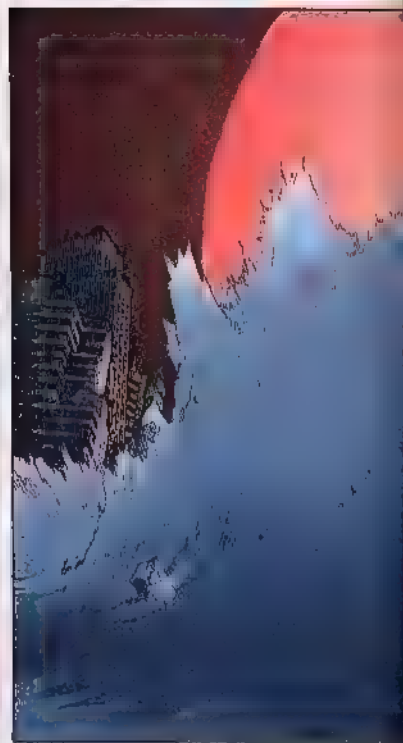
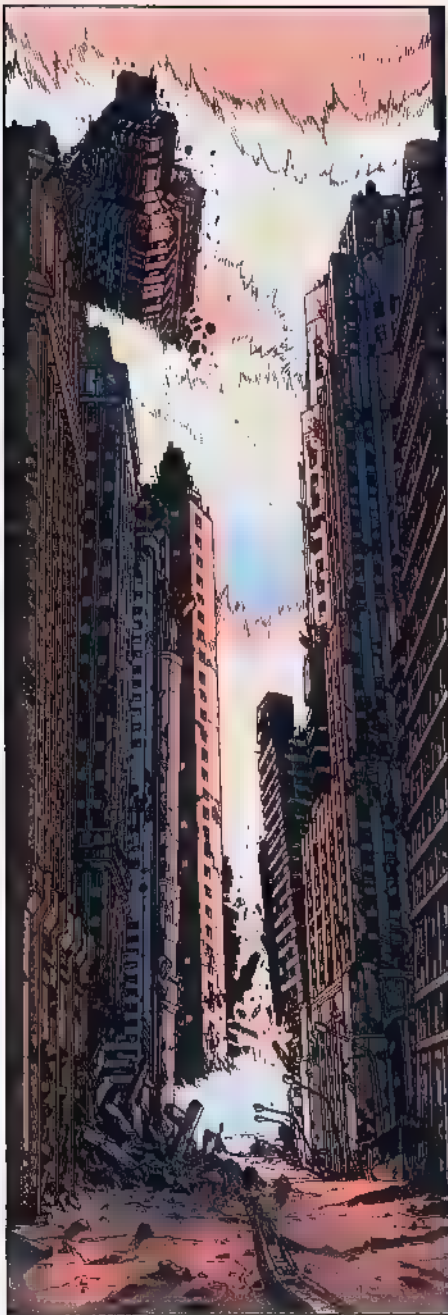
I love um

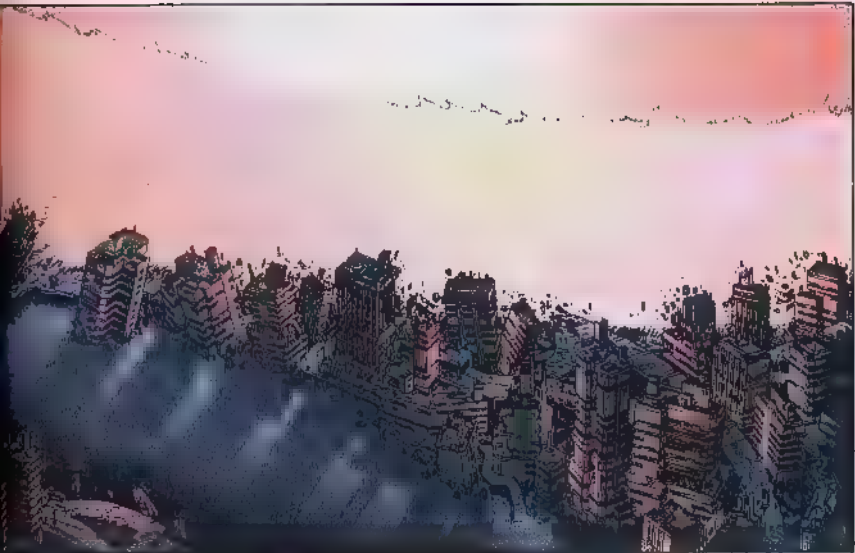
I buy um

I preserve um



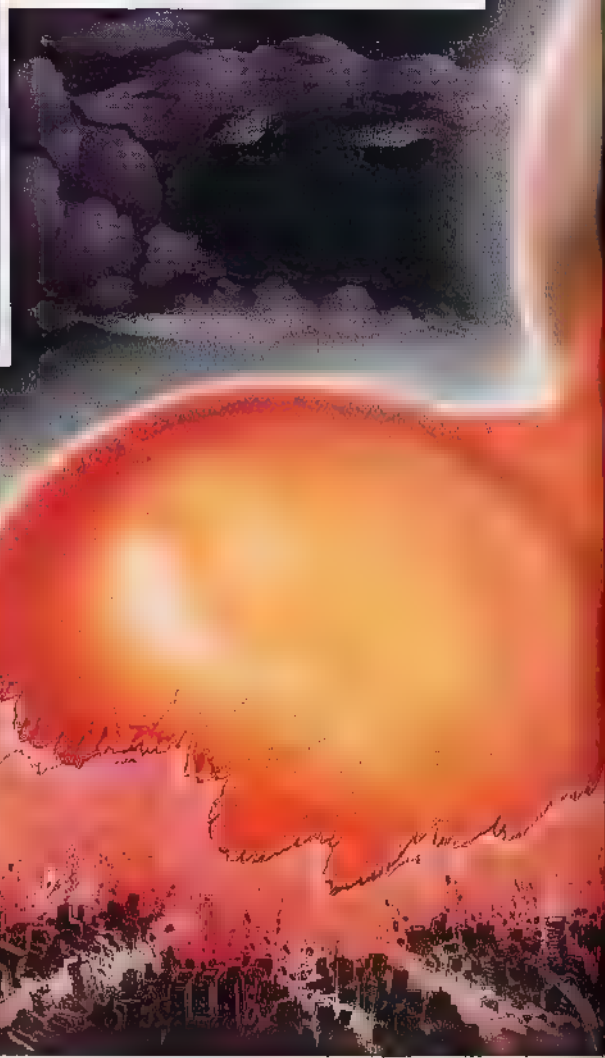




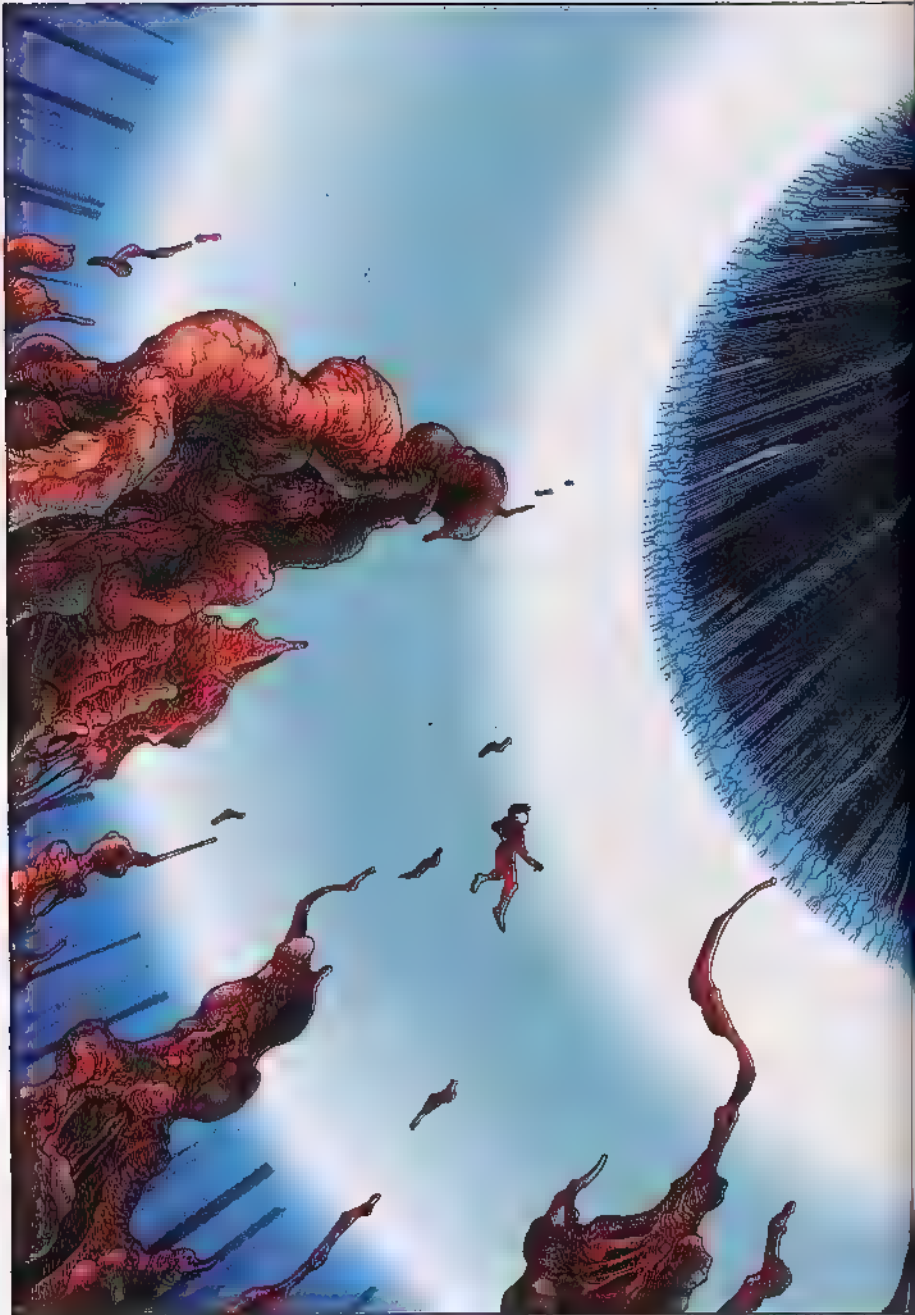














TETSUO!

WHAT'S
HAPPENED
TO
YOU
?!

CAN
YOU
HEAR
ME?

KA-OR!!

...MONSTER
IS THE CRIMINAL
ALL...

TETSUO...
IS THAT
YOU?

KA...

...NE...
DA...

THIS
IS
THE
TIME...

I'VE
BEEN
WAITING
FOR!

HURRY!

WE'LL USE RIC-24.
GET INTO YOUR
GEAR.

AMERICAN
SOLDIERS HAVE
US UNDER
ATTACK.

A DREAM.

DID YOU
SAY
IT'S A
DREAM?

THIS
IS NO
DREAM!

TO
CONTROL
YOUR
POWER YOU
MUST
FIRST
MASTER
YOUR
OWN
WEAKNESS!

I'VE
GOT
MY
ARM
BACK.

PLEASE
...USE
YOUR
POWER
TO
DEFEND
US!

THIS GAS
WAS DEVELOPED
THROUGH GENETIC
ENGINEERING.

WHAT WAS
THAT?

AS FAR
AWAY AS
POSSIBLE.

HA HA HA HA!

I...

...AM
HERE!

CAUTION
DANGER
WARNING

RIGHT!

IF
THAT'S
WHO IT
WAS...

HE
MAY HAVE BEEN
TRYING TO
ESCAPE THE
RESTRAINTS
YOU PLACED
ON HIM.

AREN'T
YOU
KAY?

HIS BODY CAN NO
LONGER CONTAIN THE
BURGEONING TOWER.
SO IT SEEMS TO
POSSESS A
GREATER
FORM.

WHAT
ABOUT
THE
MOON?

MAORI
IS
ASLEEP...
ONLY
KEEPING...

WHY DID
YOU--?

WHAT
--??

COME
ON AND
TRY IT,
ASSHOLES!

I'M NOT
ALONE.

...LOCATED
BENEATH THE
CONSTRUCTION
FOR THE NEW
OLYMPIC
STADIUM.

I'VE HAD
ENOUGH!

LORD
ANIRA!

HAH,
LORD
ANIRA!

YOU
SAW IT,
TOO.

YOU
CAN
READ MY
THOUGHTS
?

IT'S A
COMPLETE
FAILURE!

ALL OF
THIS WILL
FADE
AWAY!

BY
THE
TIME
HE
WAKES,
IT
WILL BE
TOO
LATE.

I REALIZE
NOW HE
WAS A
HERO TO
BOTH OF
THEM.

SOB!!
SOB!!

HOW
DO YOU
KNOW
ABOUT
ANIRA?!

IT'S AN
ILLUSION!
ALL OF
IT!



YAMAGATAAA!

SO
YOU'VE
COME
BACK...

...NUMBER
41!!

YAAUGH!

POOR
LITTLE
TETSUO...

YAMAGATA!

DON'T
SWALLOW
PILL!

SONNA
PARTY
TO
NIGHT!

IT'S A
CUSTOM
JOB...
WANNA
TRY
IT?

SAY
WHAT?

SINCE
WHEN DO
YOU
GIVE
ORDERS
HERE?

LET'S
RACE
THOSE
BIKES
TILL
THEY
FLY!

FROM
HERE CAN
WE TAKE
IT AS IT
COMES.

YOU'RE
STILL
JUST
A
KID.

STOP
TREATING
ME LIKE
SUCH A
BABY!

HE TOOK SOME
MIND-ALTERING
DRUG DURING
THE PAST
TWENTY-FOUR
HOURS.



STOP FOLLOWING ME EVERYWHERE!

WHILE WE DON'T WANT TO NEGLECT ACADEMICS...

...OUR MAIN GOAL IS THE TEACHING OF DECENT HUMAN VALUES.

YOUR FIRST KINE HUNE?



HEY, TETSUO! HEADS UP!

AND TETSUO SHIMA WILL BE YOUR NEW FRIEND...

TETSUO!

I DON'T WANNA GO!

NO!

DON'T MAKE ME GO!

HE CRIES AND CRIES TILL I CAN'T STAND IT. IT'S NOT AS THOUGH HE WERE MY REAL CHILD.



WHY WON'T DADDY COME AND SEE ME?

SOB-SOB!

THE FOOL!